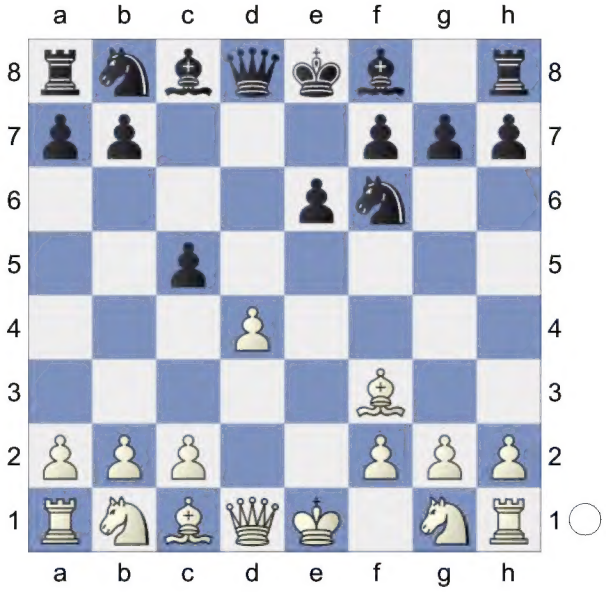
The French Schlecter Game Collection

Chess Notes 2025

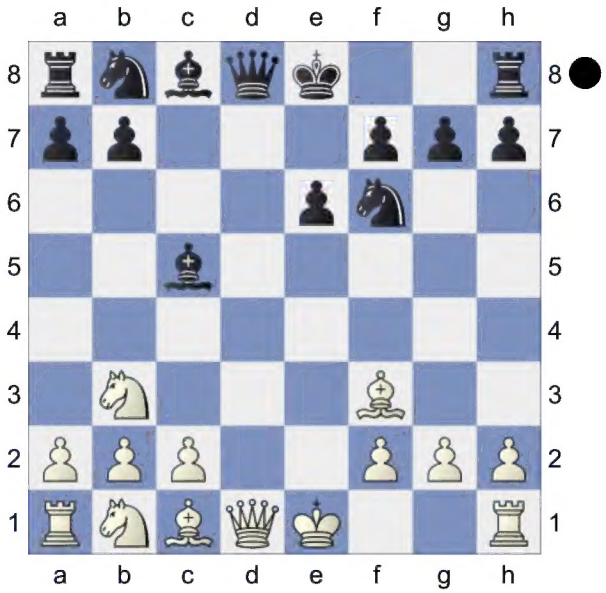
1 **C01**
□ **Deac,Bogdan Daniel** **2692**
■ **Shirov,Alexei** **2648**
Titled Tue 11th Feb Late blitz (5) 11.2.25
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
John Emms: 'This game was actually played in July last year, but I've come back to it in view of some new published analysis on the main line of the Flick-Knife by two Benoni experts: Anatoly Vaisser in New In Chess Yearbook 69, and Albert Kapengut in ChessBase Magazine 96.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**



6.Ne2 cxd4 7.Nxd4 Bc5 8.Nb3

(Diagram)

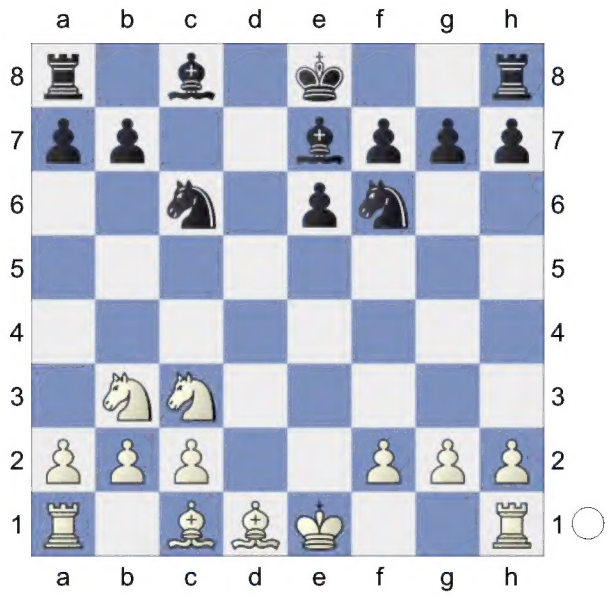


Threatens to win with Qd1xd8+.
8...Qxd1+ The position is equal. **9.Bxd1 Be7N**

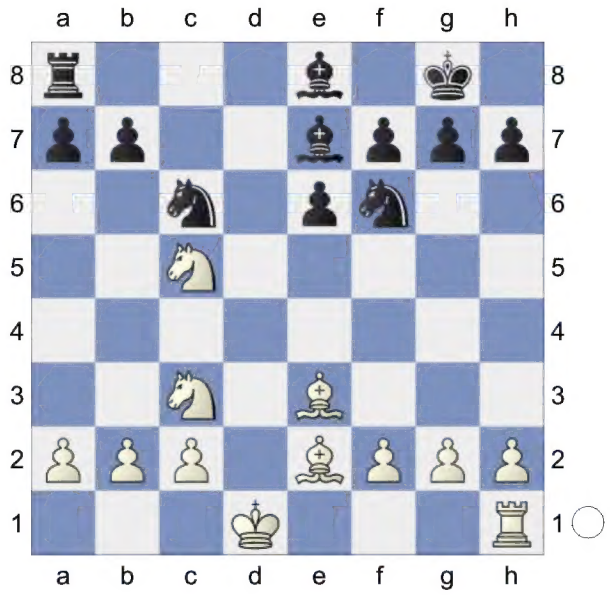
[9...Bb6 10.a4 a6 11.Na3 0-0 12.Nc4 Ba7 13.0-0 Nc6 14.Bf3 Rd8 15.Bf4 Nd5 16.Bg3 Nd4 17.Nxd4 Bxd4 18.Rad1 Bc5 19.b4 Ba7 20.b5 axb5 21.axb5 Bc5 22.Rfe1 h6 23.Ne3 Bxe3 24.fxe3 ½-½ (39) Ernst,S (2475)-Stellwagen,D (2467) NED-ch58 Leeuwarden 2003 (5) Re8 25.Rd4 Nf6 26.Be5 Nd7 27.Bc7 Nf6 28.Red1 Nd5 29.Bxd5 exd5 30.Rxd5 Be6 31.Rc5 Bg4 32.Rd3 g6 33.Kf2 Bf5 34.Rd2 h5 35.b6 Ra3 36.Be5 Ra6 37.Bd4 Rc8 38.Rxc8+ Bxc8 39.Bf6 1-0 5.bc3 de4 6.♕g4_51650 (2440)-Campeert,J (2261) (ol) 50/442 Novi Sad 1990 (6)]

10.Nc3 Nc6

(Diagram)



11.Be3 0-0 12.Be2 Rd8 13.Rd1 Rxd1+ 14.Kxd1 Bd7 15.Nc5 Be8

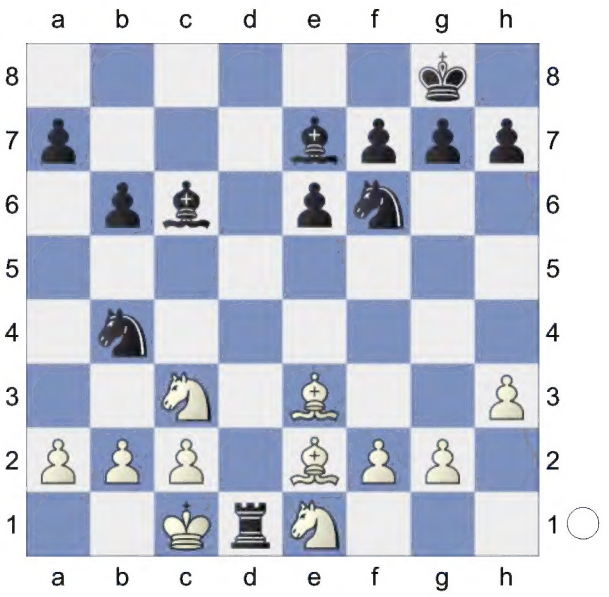


16.Kc1 b6 17.Nd3 Rd8 18.Rd1 Nb4 0.20/20

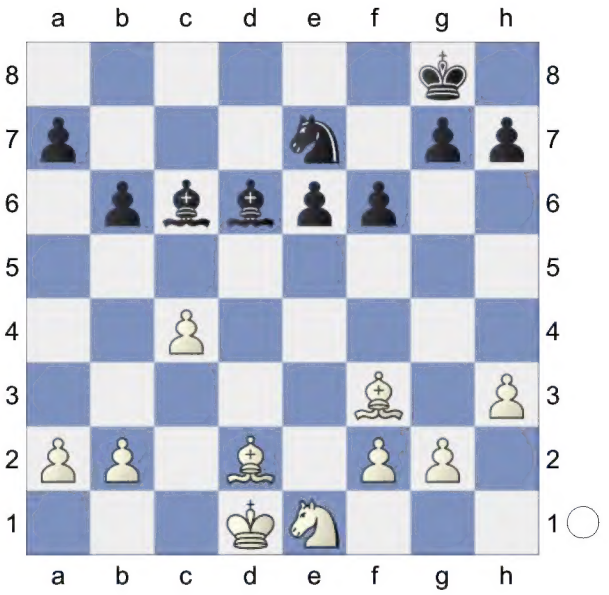
[18...Nd4!∓ -0.56/17]

19.h3 Bc6 20.Ne1 Rxd1+

(Diagram)



21.Kxd1 Nfd5 22.Nxd5 Nxd5 23.Bd2 f6 24.Bf3 Bd6 25.c4 Ne7

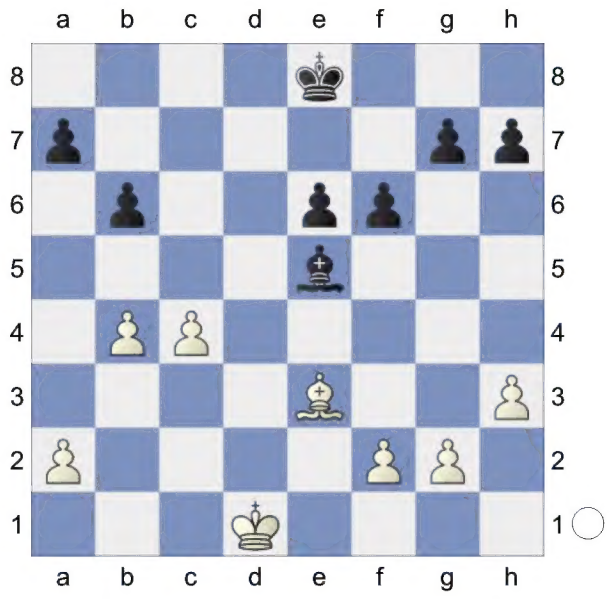


26.Bxc6 Nxc6= Endgame. KBN-KBN **27.Nd3 Kf7 28.Be3 Ne5** 0.50/21

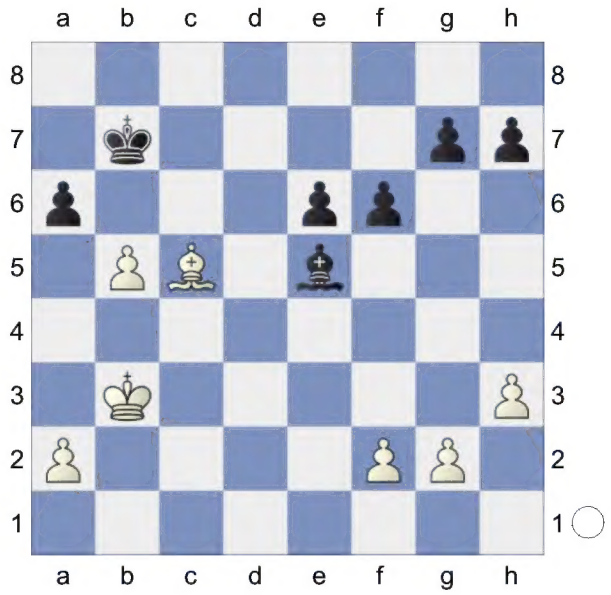
[28...e5= -0.22/20]

29.Nxe5+± Bxe5 KB-KB **30.b4 Ke8**

(Diagram)

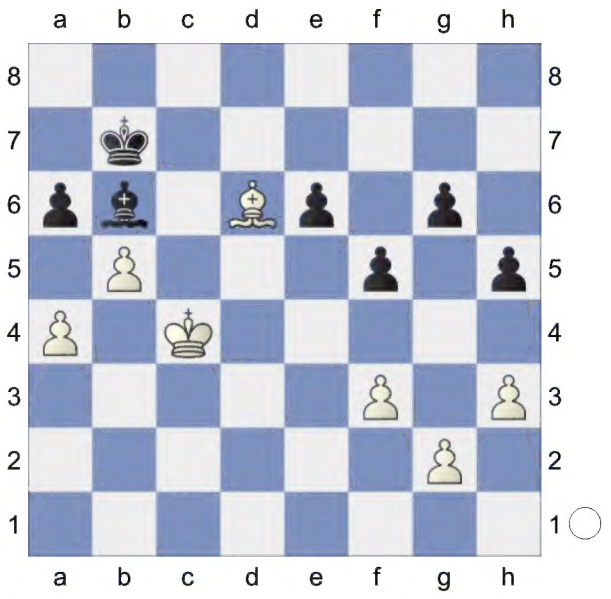


31.Kc2 Kd7 32.Kb3 Kc6 33.b5+ Kb7 34.c5 bxc5 35.Bxc5 a6

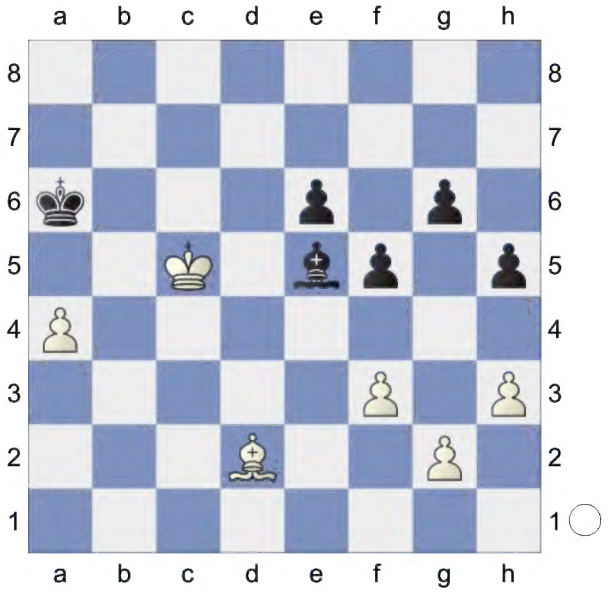


36.Kc4 Bc7 37.a4 g6 38.f3 f5 39.Be7 Bb6 40.Bd6 h5

(Diagram)

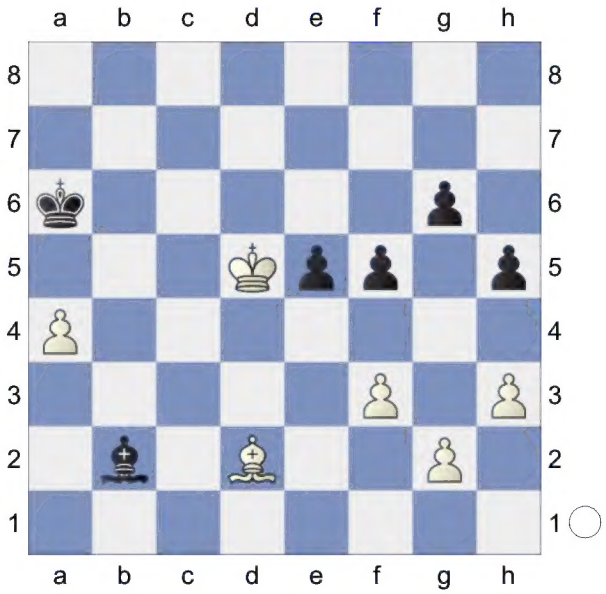


41.Bc5 Bc7 42.Be3 Bd6 1.02/25
[42...Ba5± 0.49/21]
43.Bd2± Bc7 2.22/27
[43...Be7± 1.03/24]
44.Kc5 And now b5xa6+ would win.
44...Be5? 5.29/31
[44...axb5 1.87/25 is tougher. 45.axb5 *(45.Kxb5 Bb6=)* 45...h4]
45.bxa6+ Kxa6

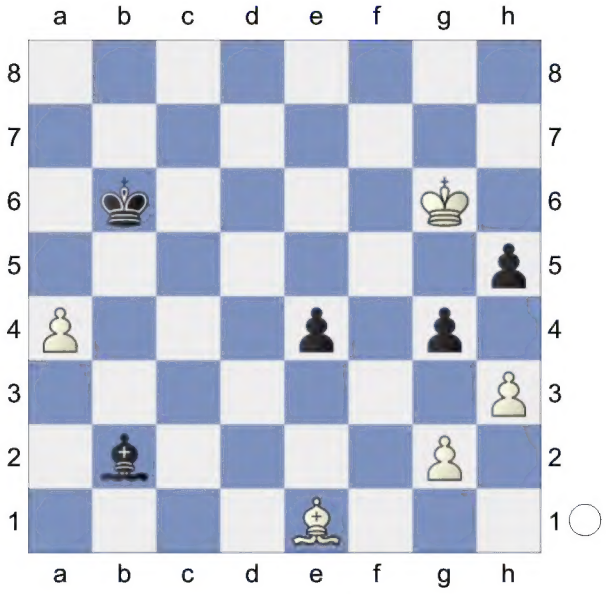


46.Kc6 Bd4 6.67/27
[⌓46...Ba1 4.73/30 47.Kd7 e5]
47.Kd6 e5 48.Kd5 f3-f4 is the strong threat. **48...Bb2 49.Bb4 Kb6 50.Bd2?**

0.01/25
[50.Be7+- 4.54/29]
50...Ka6!=

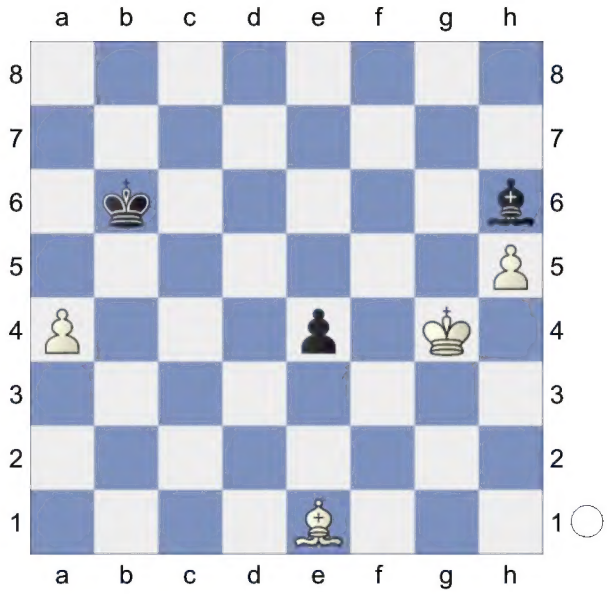


51.Be1 Kb6 52.Ke6 2.12/25
[⌓52.Bh4 3.60/25]
52...e4+- 53.fxe4 fxe4 54.Kf7 g5 55.Kg6 g4 7.95/27
[55...Bc1 2.92/24 56.Kxh5 Kc5]

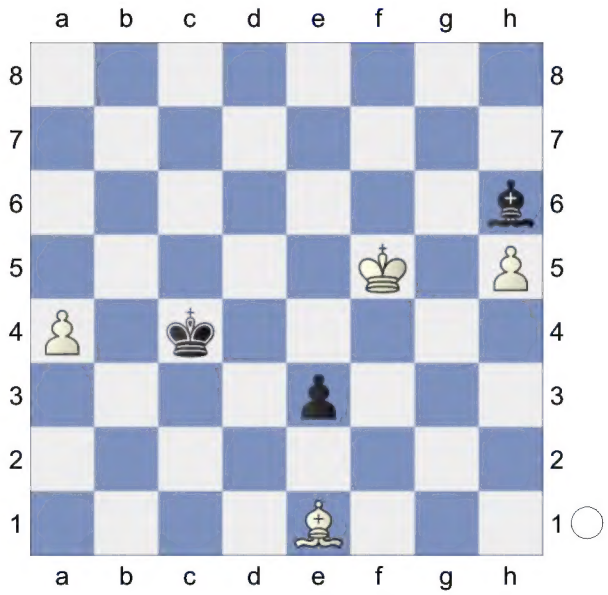


56.Kxh5 gxh3 57.gxh3 Bc1 58.Kg4 Kc5 59.h4 Kb6 60.h5 Bh6

(Diagram)



61.Kf5 e3 62.Kg6 Bf4 63.Kf5? -0.01/22
[63.Bb4+- 7.83/33 Kc6 64.h6]
63...Bh6= 64.Ke4 Kc5 9.62/30
[⌓64...Kc6 5.12/32 65.Kf5 Kd6]
65.Kf5? -0.01/27
[65.Kd3+- 9.62/30 Kd6 66.Bb4+ *(66.a5 Kc7+-)* 66...Kd5 67.Bc3 *(67.a5 Kc6+-)*]
65...Kc4? 7.18/33
[65...Kb6= -0.01/27 66.Kg6 Bf4]



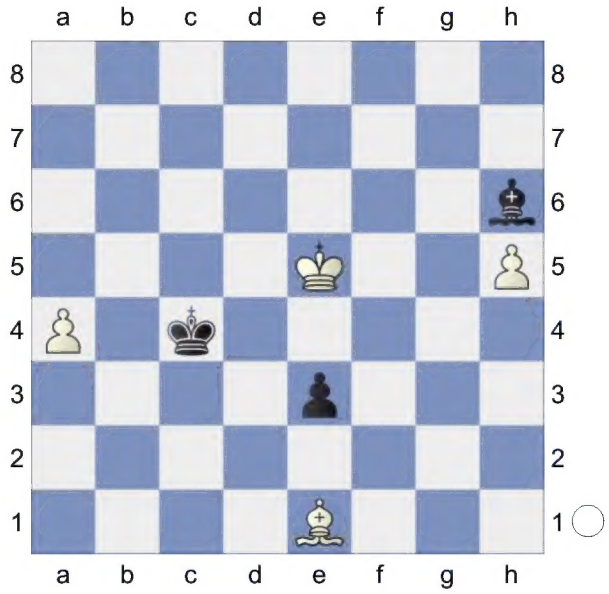
66.Kg6+- Bf4 67.Kf6? 0.00/24

[67.h6+- 5.14/32 Strongly threatening h6-h7. Bxh6 68.Kxh6]

67...Bh6? 5.55/33

[67...Bd6!= 0.00/24 and Black stays safe.]

68.Kf5 Kc5 69.Ke5 Kc4

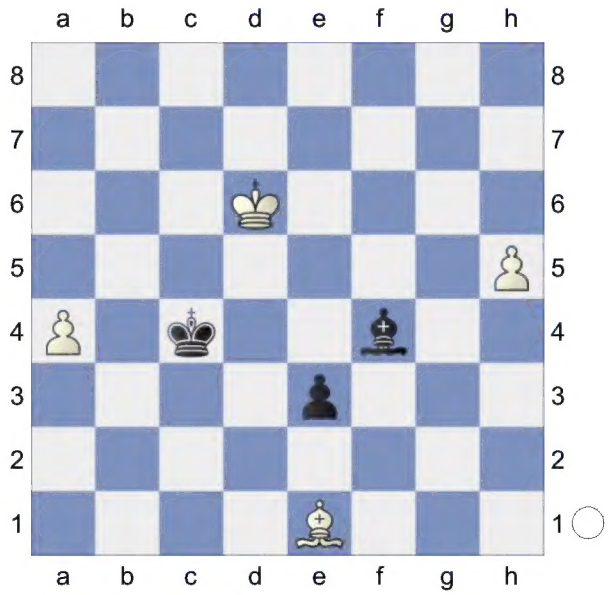


70.Kd6? 0.00/23

[70.a5!+- 4.27/24 Hoping for a5-a6. Kb5 71.Ke4]

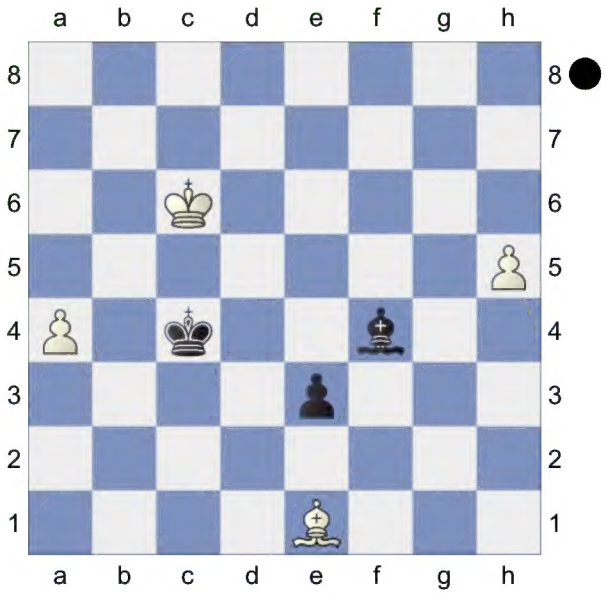
70...Bf4+ 0.52/23

[70...e2= 0.00/23]



71.Kc6 0.01/25

[White should play 71.Kd7!± 0.52/23 e2 72.a5]



Weighted Error Value: White=0.37/ Black=0.27 (precise) . Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)?

1-0

2 **C01**

□ **Starbox2010** **2706**

■ **Chesssplayer21** **2807**

Blitz 23.08.2024

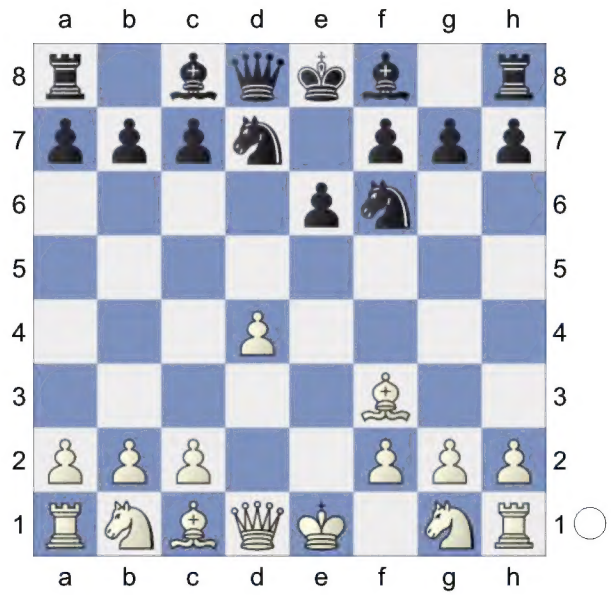
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Nbd7

(Diagram)



6.Ne2 Bd6 7.0-0 0-0 8.c4 The position is equal.

[8.Bf4 e5 9.Bg5 h6 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.Bh4 Nxf3+ 12.gxf3 Bh3 13.Re1 Be5 14.Qxd8 Raxd8 15.Nbc3 Rd2 16.Rac1 c6 17.Bxf6 gxf6 18.f4 Bxc3 19.Nxc3 Kg7 20.Ne4 Rd4 21.Re3 Bf5 22.Rg3+ 1-0 9.dc5 bc5 10.0-0 (2242)-Deschamps,Q (2628) Garmisch Partenkirchen rapid 1994 (1)]

[8.Nbc3 e5 9.Bg5 h6 10.Bh4 Re8 11.Ne4 g5 12.Nxd6 cxd6 13.Bg3 e4 6) Odds and Ends-The Schlechter Variation The Aggressive French 2024]

8...e5 Threatens to win with ...e5-e4.

9.Nbc3 c6N

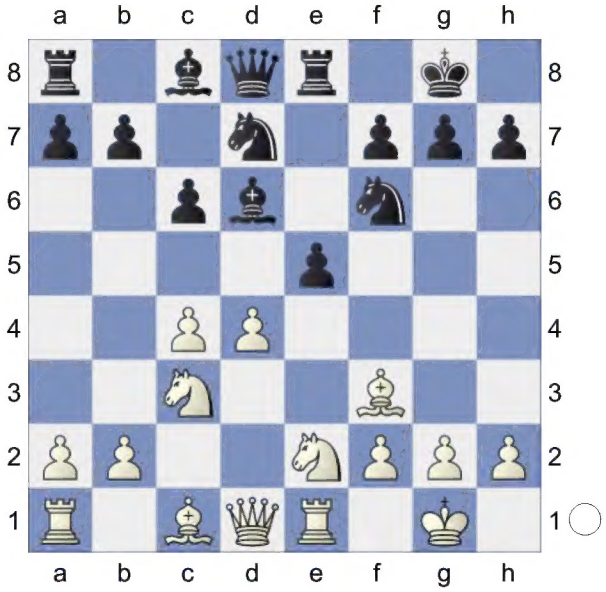
[9...exd4 10.Nxd4 Ne5 11.Be2 c6 12.h3 h6 13.b3 Bc5 14.Nf3 Qc7 15.Bb2 Ng6 16.Qc2 Nf4 17.Na4 Be7 18.Rfe1 Nxe2+ 19.Qxe2 Bd8 20.Be5 Qa5 21.Rad1 Bf5 22.Bc3 Qc7 23.Be5 Qa5 24.Bc3 1-0 (69) Sisabayev,K (2235)-Lux,H (2322) Titled Tuesday intern op 18th Apr Early blitz 2023 (3) Qa6 25.Qe5 Bh7 26.Nc5 Qb6 27.Nd7 Qc7 28.Qxc7 Bxc7 29.Nxf8 Rxf8 30.Bxf6 gxf6 31.Rd7 Ba5 32.Red1 b5 33.Rxa7 Bc3 34.cxb5 cxb5 35.Rc7 b4 36.Rdd7 Bf5 37.Rd6 Kg7 38.Nd4 Bb1 39.Ne6+ 1-0 (69) Tolstoj,S (2235)-Faria,M (2322) 83/160 Leon 2001 (3)]

[9...Re8 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bxf6 Nxf6 12.dxe5 Bxe5 13.Qxd8 Rxd8 14.Rad1 Bf5 15.Rfe1 c6 16.b3 g5 17.g3 Bc2 18.Rc1 Rd2 19.Nb1 Bxb1 20.Rxb1 Rad8 21.b4 Rxa2 22.Nc1 Ra3 23.Rb3 Rxb3 24.Nxb3 (58) 13) 3.Bd3 - Model Games-Yoo, C]

10.Re1

[10.d5!?]

10...Re8



White must now prevent ...e5-e4. **11.g3** -0.69/18

[11.Bg5!= -0.09/19]

11...exd4∓ 12.Nxd4 Ne5 13.Bg5 -1.31/20

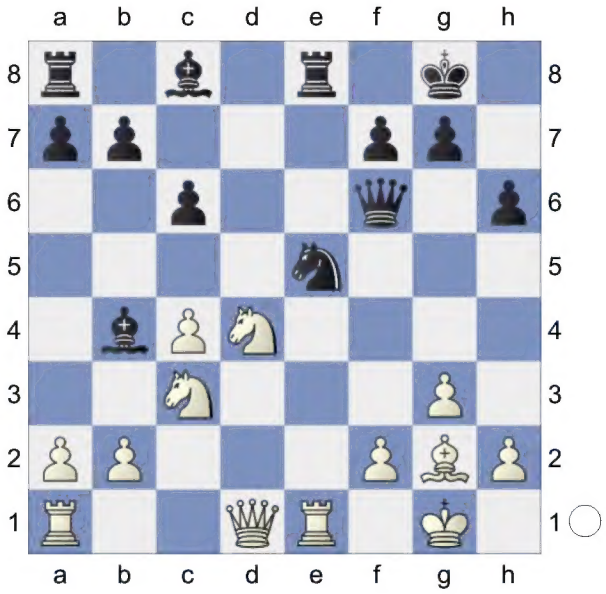
[13.Be2∓ -0.59/19]

13...h6 -0.71/20

[Of course not 13...Nxc4?! 14.Rxe8+ Qxe8 15.Bxf6 gxf6 16.Nxc6 bxc6 17.Be2=]

[⌓13...Bc5! -1.31/20 14.Bxf6 gxf6 *(14...Qxf6 15.Ne4∓)* 15.Rxe5 Decoy Rxe5 *(15...fxe5 16.Nb3∓)* 16.Nxc6 Qxd1+ 17.Rxd1 bxc6 18.Bxc6 Bg4 *(18...Rb8? 19.b3-+)* 19.Bxa8 Bxd1]

14.Bxf6∓ Qxf6 15.Bg2 Bb4

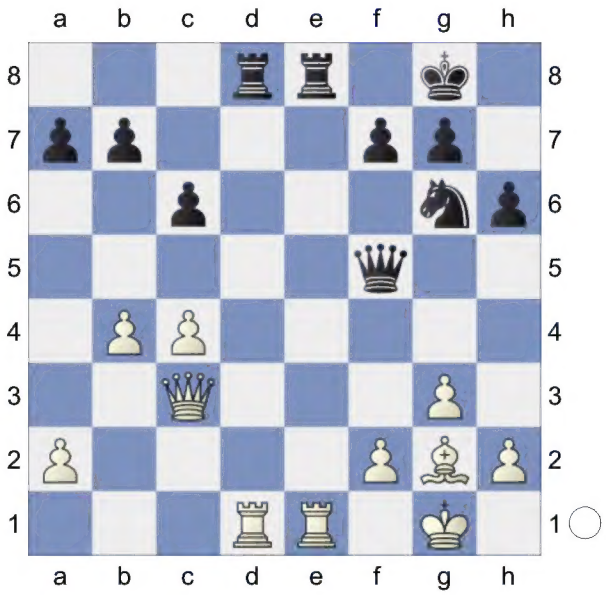


16.Qb3 Bxc3 0.12/22

[16...Rd8∓ -0.52/19 17.Rad1 Ba5]

17.Qxc3= Bf5 18.Nxf5 Qxf5 19.Rad1 Ng6 20.b4 Rad8 1.03/21

[20...Rxe1+± 0.44/19 21.Rxe1 Rd8]



21.a4 0.05/19

[21.Qe3!± 1.03/21]

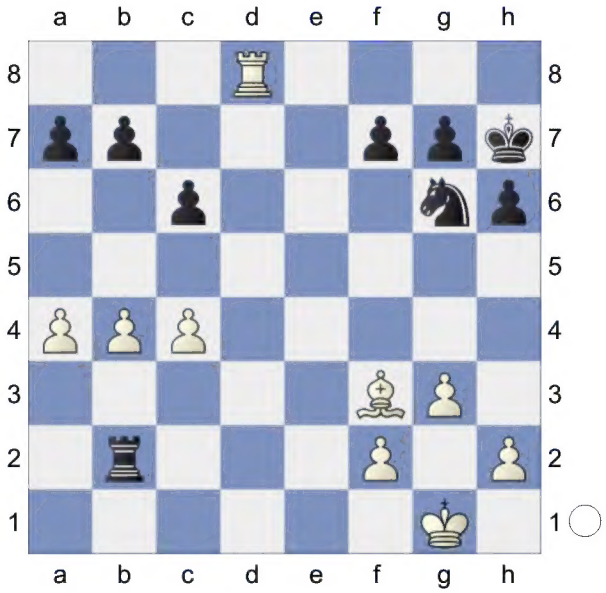
21...Rxd1 22.Rxd1 Re2 23.Qf3 Qxf3 0.80/22

[23...Qc2= 0.10/22 24.Rd8+ Nf8]

24.Bxf3 Endgame. KRB-KRN **24...Rb2** 1.16/24

[24...Rc2± 0.65/22]

25.Rd8+± Kh7



26.b5 Ne5 27.Be4+ g6 28.Rb8 0.20/24

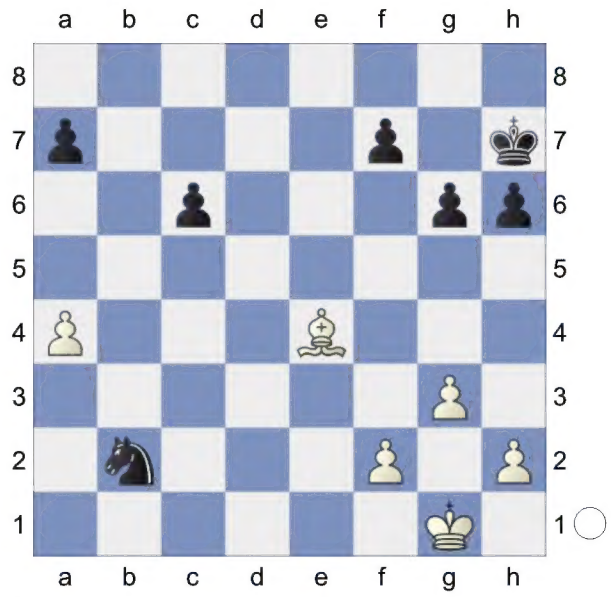
[28.bxc6± 1.18/23 bxc6 29.Re8 Nxc4 30.Re7]

28...Nxc4= 29.bxc6

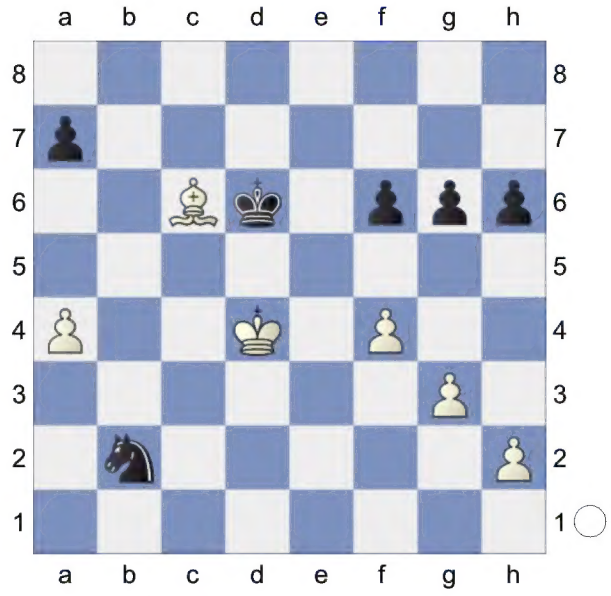
[29.Rxb7!? Nd6□ 30.Rxa7 cxb5 *(30...Nxe4 31.Rxf7+ Kg8 32.Re7=)* 31.Bd5=]

29...bxc6 30.Rxb2 Nxb2

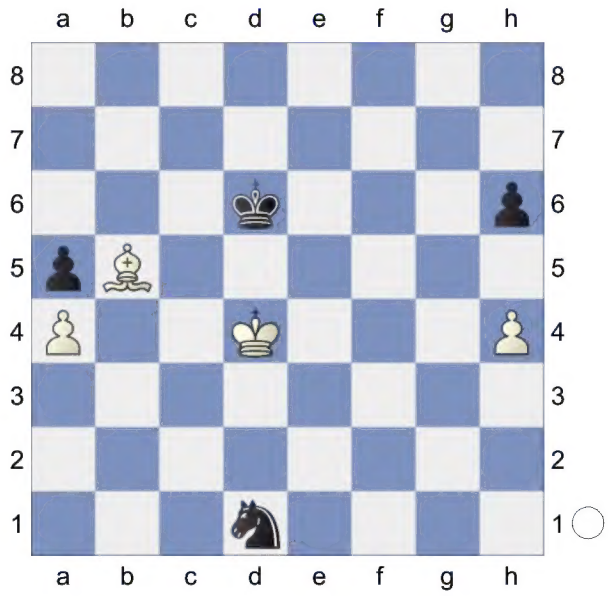
(Diagram)



31.Bxc6 KB-KN **31...Kg7 32.f4 Kf6 33.Kf2 Ke7 34.Ke3 f6** 0.77/23
[34...Kd6= 0.10/24 35.Bb5 Kd5]
35.Kd4± Kd6

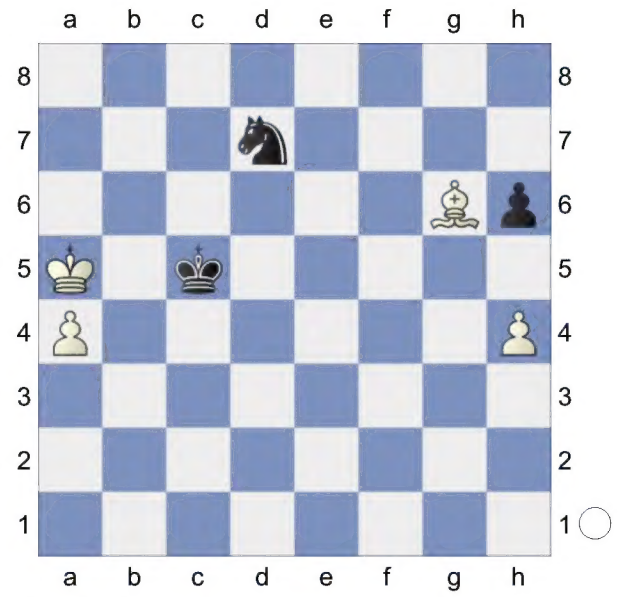


36.Be8 g5 1.40/25
[Black should try 36...Ke7 0.85/25 37.Bb5 *(37.Bxg6 Nxa4 38.Bc2 Nb6±)* 37...Kd6]
37.fxg5 fxg5 1.70/24
[37...hxg5± 1.22/27 38.h4 Ke6]
38.h4? 0.00/31
[White must play 38.a5+- 1.70/24]
38...gxh4= 39.gxh4 a5 1.15/31
[39...Ke7= 0.00/31 40.Bb5 a6 41.Bxa6 Nxa4]
40.Bb5 0.17/27
[40.h5± 1.15/31]
40...Nd1 0.95/28
[40...h5= 0.17/27]

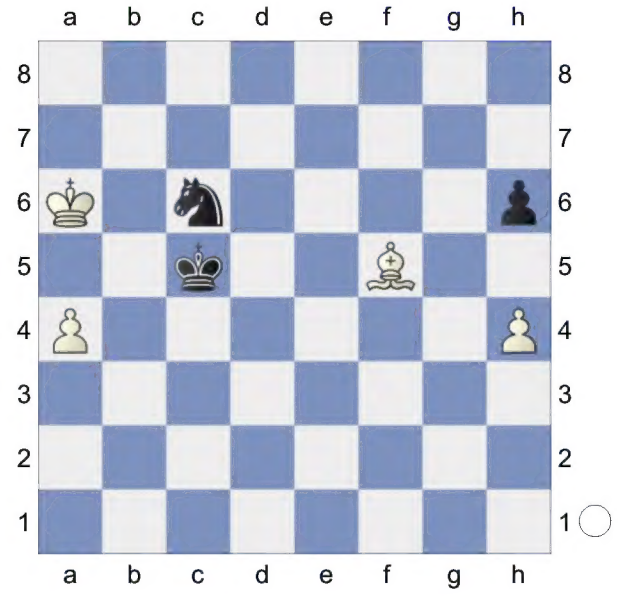


41.Be8 -0.01/25
[41.Bd3± 0.95/28]
41...Nf2 1.29/31
[41...Nb2= -0.01/25]
42.Kc4± Ne4 43.Kb5 Nf6 44.Bg6 Nd7
45.Kxa5 And now Bg6-f5 would win.
45...Kc5

(Diagram)

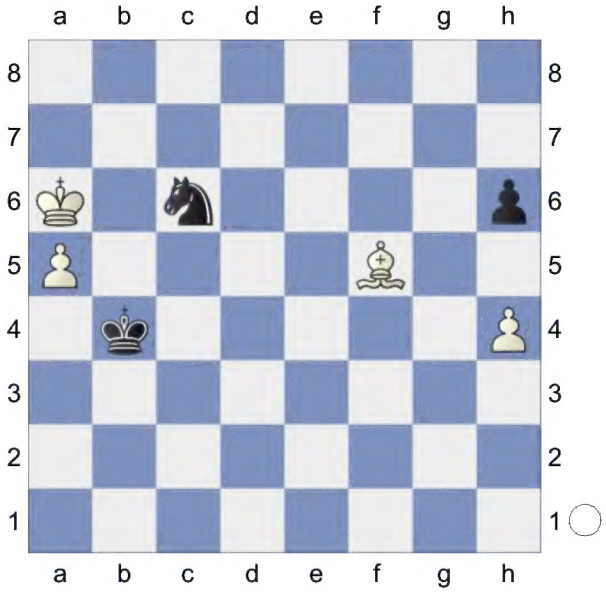


46.Bf5 0.01/32
[46.Bd3± 1.33/31]
46...Nb8 1.30/31
[46...Ne5= 0.01/32 keeps the balance.]
47.Be4 Nd7 48.Bf5 0.01/30
[48.Bg6± 1.37/30]
48...Ne5 49.Ka6 Nc6? 2.20/30
[49...Kb4= 0.00/29 and Black is okay.]

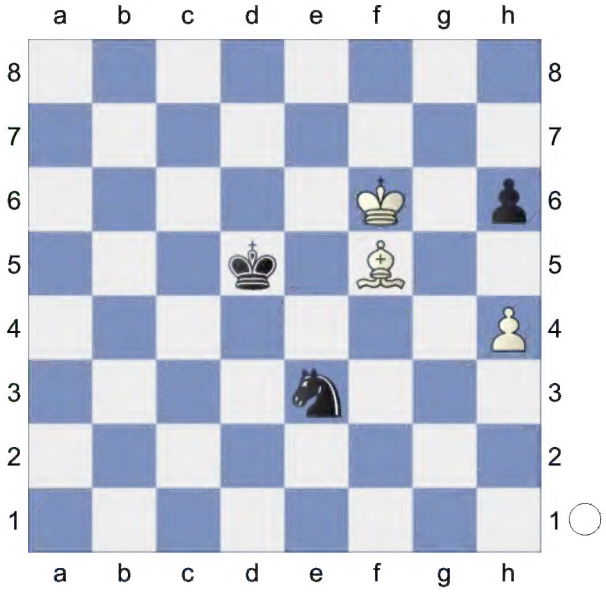


50.a5? 0.00/31
[50.Be4!+- 2.20/30 Ne5 51.a5]

50...Kb4=

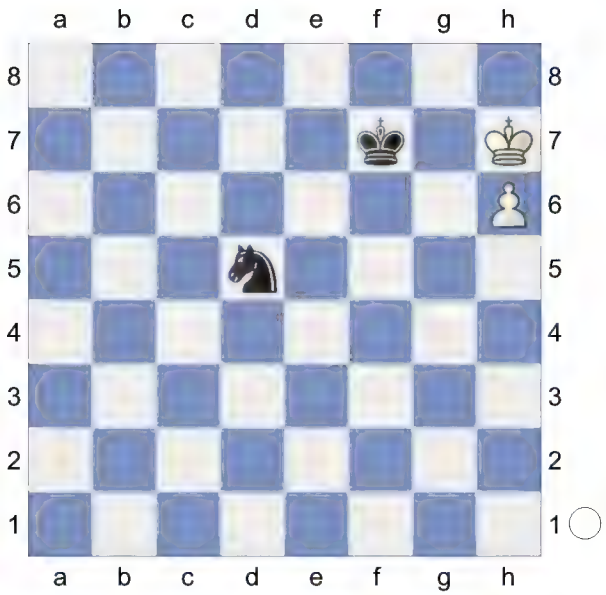


51.Kb7 Nxa5+ 52.Kc7 Nc4 53.Kd7 Ne3 54.Ke6 Kc5 55.Kf6 Kd5

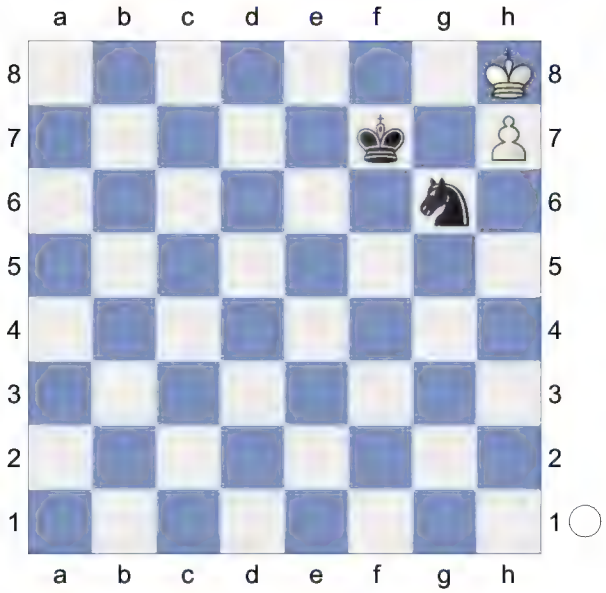


56.Kg6 Ke5 57.Kxh6 Kxf5 KN-KP
58.h5 Kf6 59.Kh7 Kf7 60.h6? -#5/12
[60.Kh6∓ -0.63/32]
60...Nd5

(Diagram)



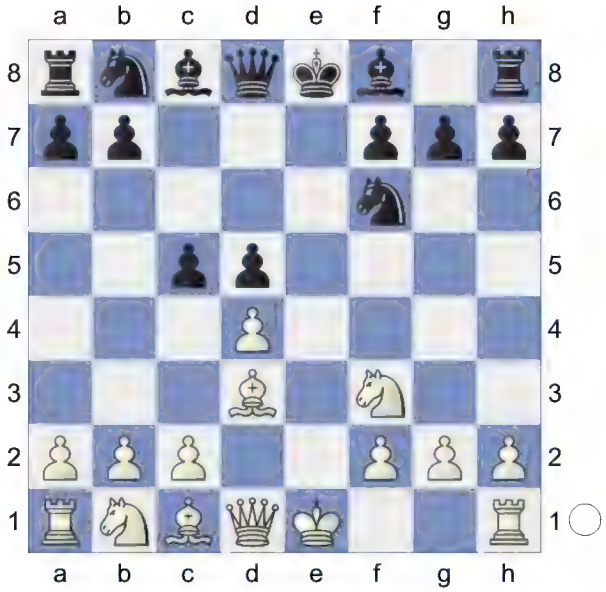
61.Kh8 Ne7? -1.91/5
[61...Nf4 -#4/10 mates 62.Kh7 Ne6 63.Kh8 Nf8 64.h7 Ng6#]
62.h7? -#1/6
[62.Kh7-+ -1.91/5]
62...Ng6#



What a bad dream for White.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.52/ Black=0.46
0-1

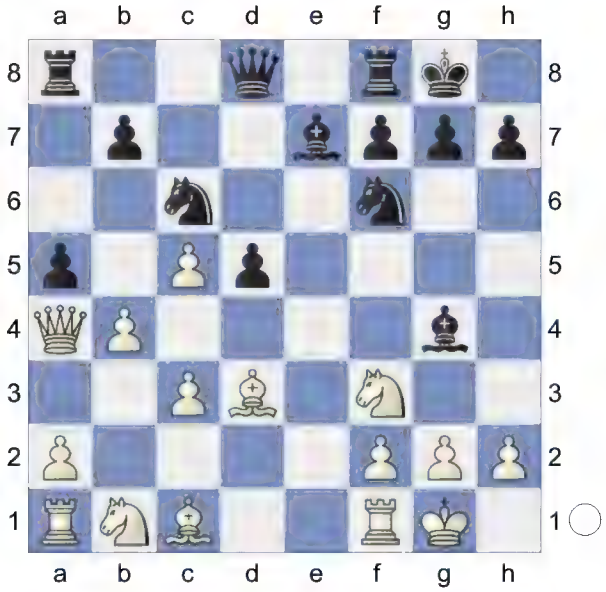
3 **C01**
□ **Ditrealman** **2693**
■ **Papasi** **2696**
Blitz 14.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.exd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nf6



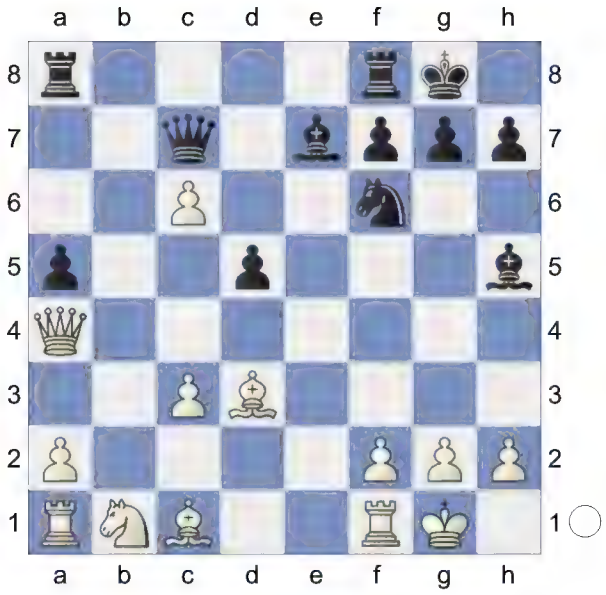
6.0-0 Be7
[6...c4 7.Re1+ Be7 8.Bf1 0-0 9.Bg5 *(9.b3 cxb3 10.axb3 Nc6 11.Ne5 Bf5 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Ba3 Bxa3 14.Rxa3 Re8 15.Rxe8+ Qxe8 16.Nc3 Ne4 17.Na4 Qe7 18.Ra1 Re8 19.Bd3 Bg6 20.f3 Ng5 21.Bxg6 hxg6 22.Qd2 Ne6 23.Re1 Qd8* 1-0 (40) Kazantzoglou,S (2085)-Injac, T (2453) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Jan Early blitz 2025 (2)) 9...Bg4 10.b3 Bxf3 11.Qxf3 Nc6 12.c3 Ne8 13.Bxe7 Nxe7 14.Na3 Nc7 15.Nc2 Qd6 16.g3 Rad8 17.Re2 f5 18.Rae1 Ng6 19.h4 f4 20.h5 fxg3 21.Qxg3 1-0 (48) Klich,C (2590)-Kaussen,O (2625) USSR (ch) 7/14 1968]

7.dxc5 0-0N
[7...Bxc5 8.Re1+ Be7 9.Qe2 Bg4 10.Bg5 a6 11.Nc3 Nc6 12.h3 Be6 13.Rad1 Qc7 14.Bf5 Bxf5 15.Bxf6 gxf6 16.Nxd5 Qd6 17.Nb6 Qb8 18.Nxa8 Qxa8 19.Nd4 Be6 20.Nxe6 fxe6 21.Qxe6 Rf8 22.Rd7 1-0 (24) Rellstab,L-Platz,J DSB-26 Kongress Hauptturnier 1929]
8.b4 0.08/19
[8.Be3± 0.45/19]
8...a5= 9.c3 Nc6 10.Qa4 Bg4

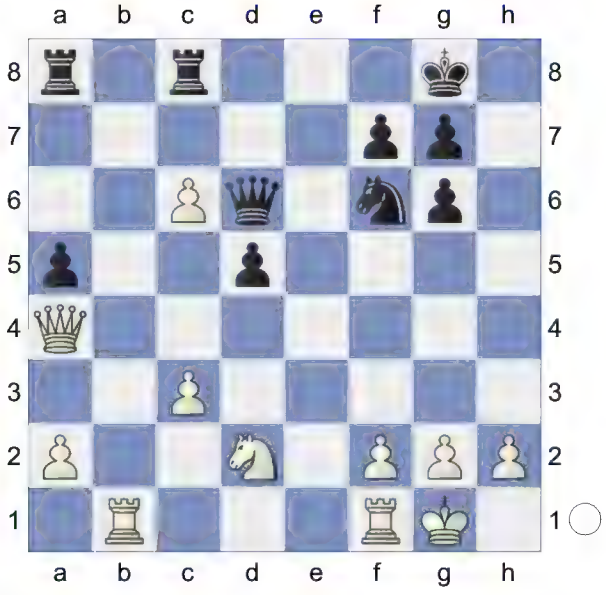


11.b5 Nb8 12.Ne5 Bh5 13.c6 Repels Nb8-d7 **13...bxc6 14.Nxc6 Nxc6 15.bxc6 Qc7** 0.39/21
[15...Bg6= -0.08/21 is superior. 16.Bxg6 hxg6]

(Diagram)

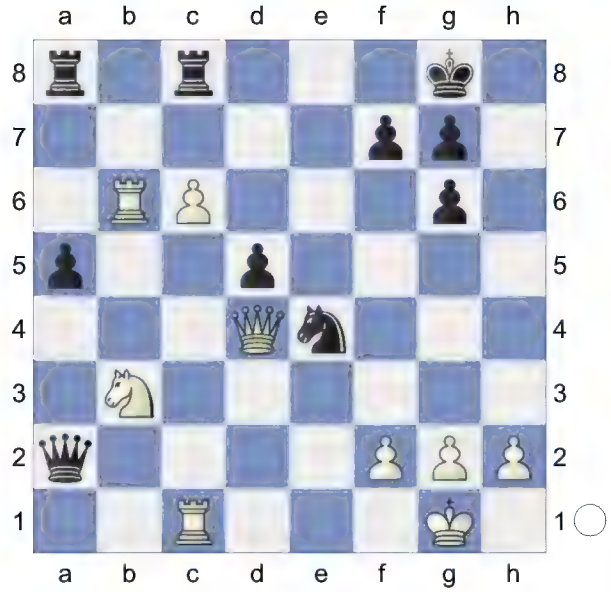


16.Bf4± Bd6 17.Bxd6 Qxd6 18.Nd2 Bg6 19.Bxg6 0.28/24
[19.Bb5± 0.87/20]
19...hxg6= 20.Rab1 -0.28/20
[20.Nf3± 0.42/22]
20...Rfc8



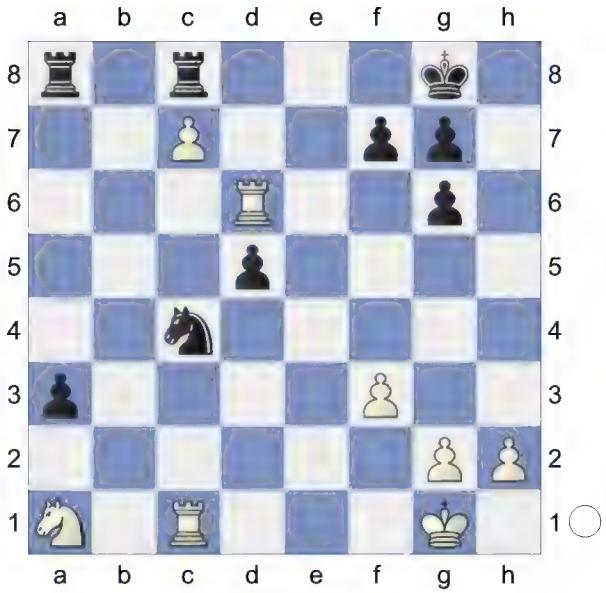
21.Rb6 Qc5 22.Rfb1 Qxc3 23.Nb3 Ne4
[23...Re8!? 24.g3□ Re4∓]
24.Rc1 -0.56/24
[24.Nd4± 0.36/23]
24...Qb2∓ 25.Qd4
[25.Nxa5? Qxc1+]

25...Qxa2

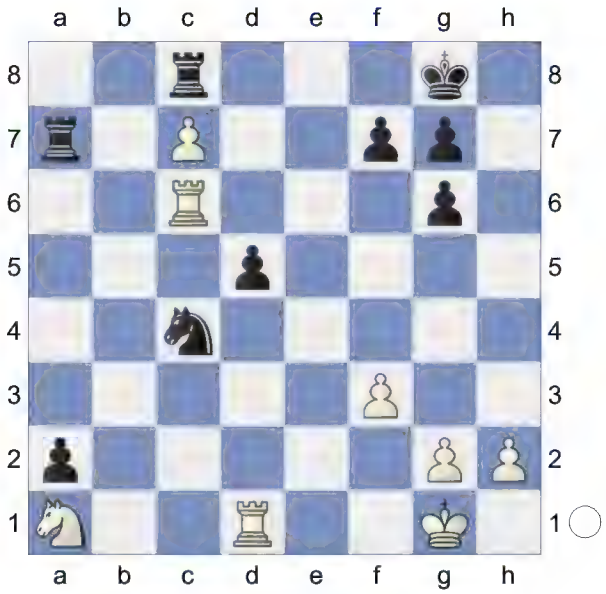


26.c7 -1.53/24
[26.Qxd5? Qxf2+ *(26...Nxf2? 27.Rb7±)* 27.Kh1 Qxb6-+]
[White should try 26.f3∓ -0.52/22 Nd6 27.Qf4 *(27.Qxd5 Qe2∓; 27.c7? Ne8∓)*]
26...a4∓ 27.Na1 a3? 1.28/25
[27...Qd2-+ -1.96/21 28.Qxd2 Nxd2]
28.f3? -1.53/24
[28.Rc2!± 1.28/25 is necessary to keep the advantage. Qxc2 *(28...Ra4? 29.Qd1+-)* 29.Nxc2 Rxc7 30.Qxd5]
28...Qd2 Some like it hot **29.Qxd2 Nxd2**
30.Rd6 -2.39/23
[30.Rb7∓ -1.43/24]
30...Nc4-+

(Diagram)



31.Rc6 -3.60/22
[⌓31.Rd7 -2.32/23]
31...a2? -1.13/24
[31...Ra7-+ -3.60/22 has better winning chances. 32.Rc5 Raxc7 *(32...Rcxc7? 33.Rxd5 Nb6 34.Rd8+ Kh7 35.Re1-+)*]
32.Rd1∓ Ra7? 1.47/23
[32...Ne3∓ -1.18/22 33.Rd3 Nf5]



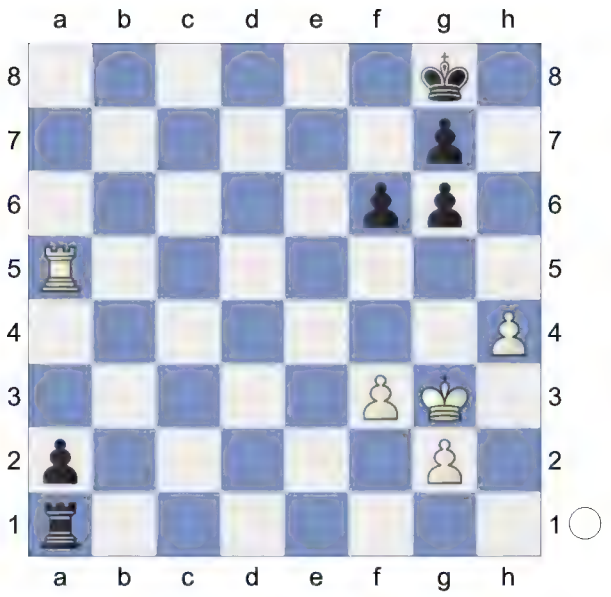
33.Rxd5 -0.65/29
[33.Rxc4!± 1.47/23 And now Rd1-d2! would win. Rcxc7 34.Rxc7 Rxc7

35.Kf2]
33...Raxc7 34.Rxc7 Rxc7± Endgame.
KRN-KRN **35.Rd8+ Kh7**

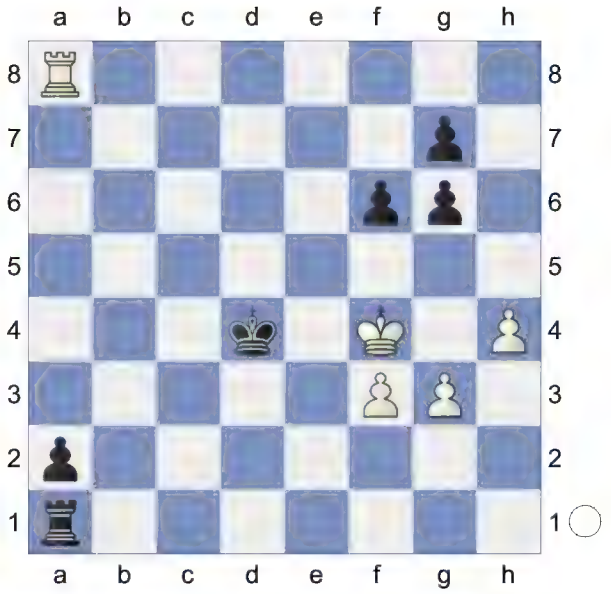
36.Ra8

Na5! 37.Rxa5∓ KRN-KR **37...Rc1+ 38.Kf2 Rxa1** KR-KR **39.h4 f6** -0.01/31
[39...Rh1!∓ -0.68/31 40.Rxa2 Rxh4]
40.Kg3= Kg8

(Diagram)

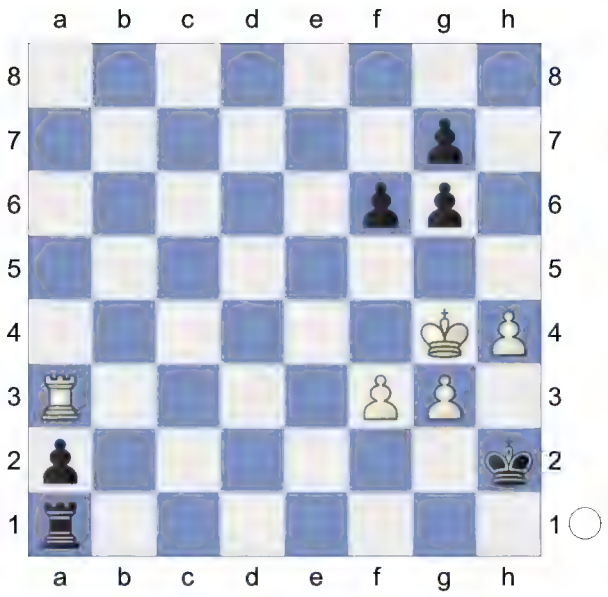


41.Kg4 Kf7 42.g3! Ke6
[42...Rd1 simplifies 43.Rxa2 Kg8 44.h5 gxh5+ 45.Kxh5 Rd5+]
43.Kf4 Kd6 44.Ra6+ Kc5 45.Ra8 Kd4

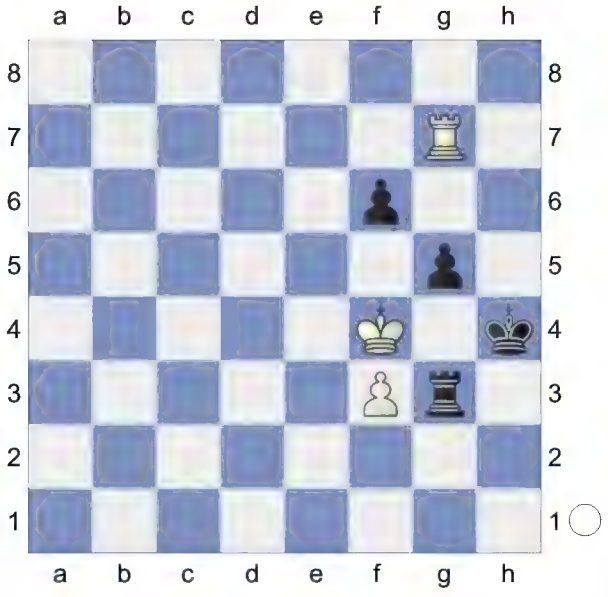


46.Ra7 Kd3 47.Rd7+ Ke2 48.Ra7 Kf2 49.Ra3 Kg2 50.Kg4 Kh2 -0.81/29
[⌓50...Kf1 -1.35/30]

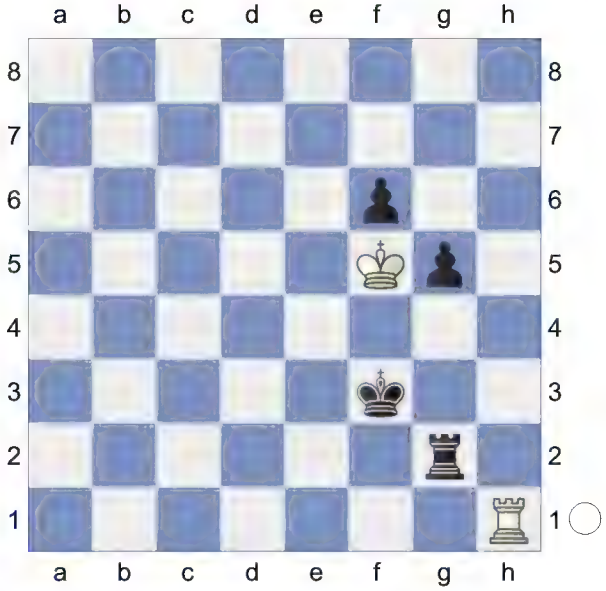
(Diagram)



51.Kf4 Kh3? -5.96/28
[51...Kh1∓ -1.06/25]
52.Ra4 Rg1? -1.04/21
[52...Rb1-+ -5.74/27 and Black stays clearly on top. 53.Rxa2 Rb4+ Deflection 54.Ke3 Kxg3]
53.Rxa2∓ Rxg3 54.Ra7? -5.32/27
[54.Ra8∓ -1.21/24]
54...Kxh4-+ 55.Rxg7 g5+

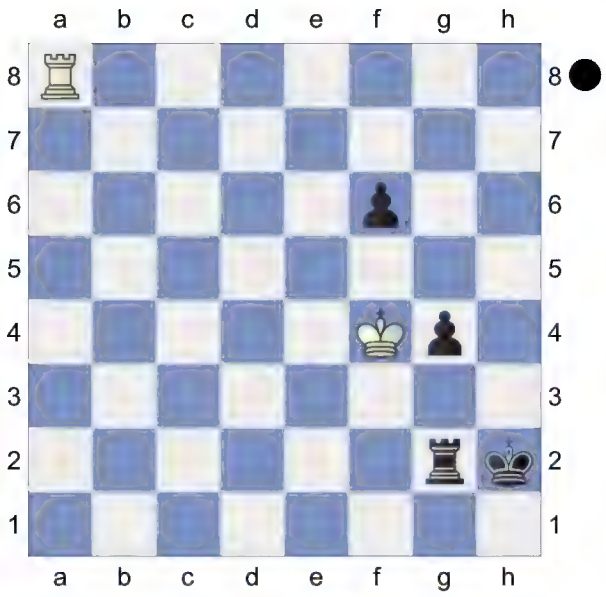


56.Ke4 Rg1? -0.17/26
[56...f5+-+ -7.94/27 57.Kxf5 Rxf3+ 58.Ke4 Rf8]
57.Rh7+? -2.59/5
[57.Rf7= -0.17/26]
57...Kg3 58.Kf5 Kxf3 59.Rh3+ -9.04/25
[⌓59.Rc7 -4.85/24 Re1 60.Rc4]
59...Rg3? 0.00/25
[Black should play 59...Kg2-+ -9.04/25 60.Rb3 Rf1+ 61.Ke4 f5+ 62.Kd4 g4 63.Rb2+ Kf3 64.Rb3+ Kf4]
60.Rh1 -9.70/24
[60.Rh6= 0.00/25]
60...Rg2? -0.01/28
[Better is 60...Kg2-+ -9.70/24 (-> ...Rg3-f3+) 61.Ra1 Rf3+ 62.Ke4 f5+ 63.Ke5 g4]



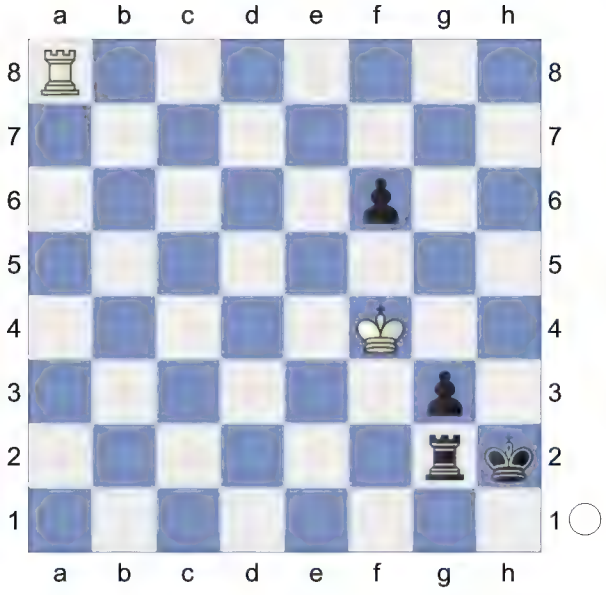
61.Ra1? -5.47/26
[61.Rh3+= -0.01/28 Kf2 *(61...Rg3 62.Rh6=)* 62.Kxf6]
61...g4? 0.00/29
[61...Rb2-+ -5.47/26 62.Ra3+ Kf2]
62.Ra3+= Kf2 63.Kf4 Kg1 64.Ra1+ Kh2 White must now prevent ...g4-g3.
65.Ra8? -5.15/25
[65.Ra5!= 0.00/29 and White stays safe.]

(Diagram)



65...g3? -0.01/22

[65...f5!-+ -5.15/25 aiming for ...Rg2-f2+. 66.Kxf5 g3 67.Rh8+ *(67.Kg4? Re2-+)* 67...Kg1]



66.Rh8+ Kg1 Strongly threatening ... Rg2-h2. **67.Kf3?** -14.69/25

[67.Rf8= 0.00/25]

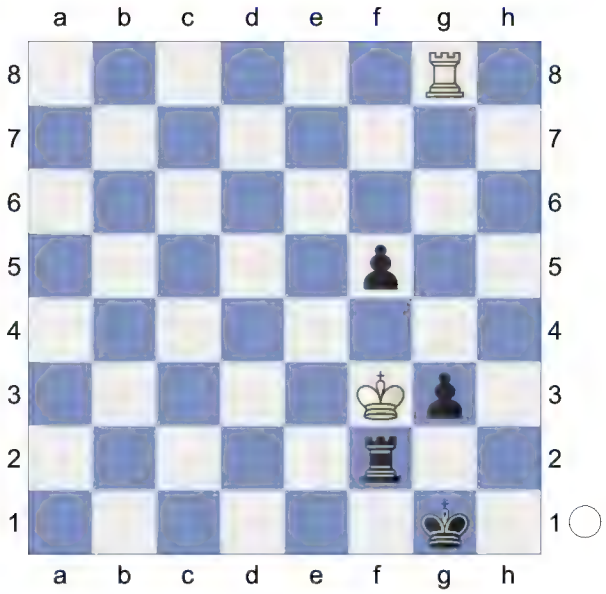
67...f5? 0.00/25

[67...Rh2-+ -14.69/25 68.Rf8 g2 69.Rxf6 Rh3+ *(69...Kh1* is a self mate. *70.Rg6 g1Q 71.Rxg1+ Kxg1 72.Ke4 Kf2 73.Ke5 Ke3 74.Ke6 Ke4 75.Kd6 Rh5 76.Ke6 Rh6+ 77.Ke7 Kd5 78.Kf7 Ke5 79.Ke7 Rh7+ 80.Ke8 Kf6 81.Kd8 Ke6 82.Kc8 Kd6 83.Kb8 Kc6 84.Ka8 Kb6 85.Kb8 Rh8#)* 70.Ke4 Rh4+ *(70...Kh1? 71.Rg6-+)* 71.Kf5 Kf2]

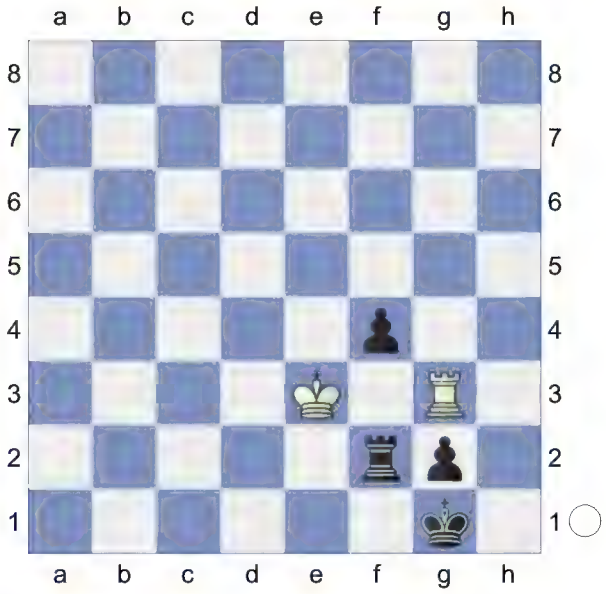
68.Ra8 Kh2 ...Rg2-f2+ would now be deadly. **69.Rh8+ Kg1** Threatens to win with ...Rg2-h2. **70.Rg8?** -14.23/25

[70.Rh4= 0.00/28]

70...Rf2+-+



71.Ke3 g2 72.Rg3 f4+



Weighted Error Value: White=0.65/

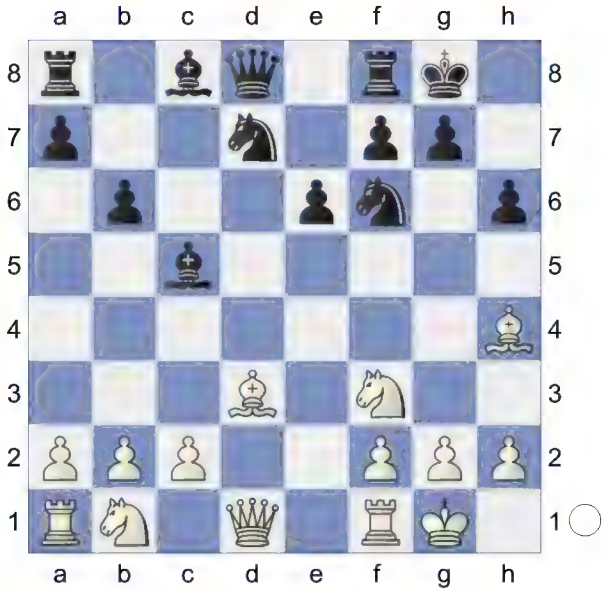
Black=0.75
0-1

4 **C01**
□ **Roma Matinyan271988** **2741**
■ **Fakebrucelee** **2771**
Blitz 05.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

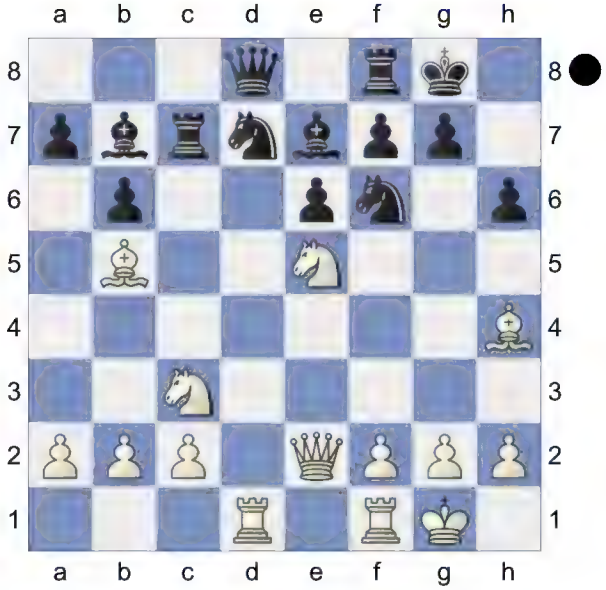
Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bd3 c5

6.dxc5 Bxc5 7.Nf3 0-0 8.Bg5N
[8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Nc3 a6 10.a3 b5 11.Ne4 Bb7 12.Nxc5 Nxc5 13.Bg5 Nxd3 14.cxd3 Qd5 15.Qe2 Nd7 16.Be7 Rfc8 17.Rac1 f6 18.Rfd1 a5 19.d4 Rxc1 20.Rxc1 Re8 21.Bc5 Bc6 22.b4 a4 0-1 (36) Strehse,N-Rios,J 27/246 Kecskemet 1979 (6) 23.Rd1 Kf7 24.Ne1 Rd8 25.Rd3 g6 26.f3 Qc4 27.Nc2 Nxc5 28.bxc5 b4 29.Qd1 b3 30.Ne3 Qb5 31.Rd2 e5 32.d5 Qxc5 33.Kf2 Bd7 34.Ke2 Bb5+ 35.Kf2 f5 36.g3 f4 0-1 Ratner,J-Popel,S Paris-ch 1953 (6)]

8...Nbd7 9.0-0 h6 10.Bh4 The position is equal. **10...b6**

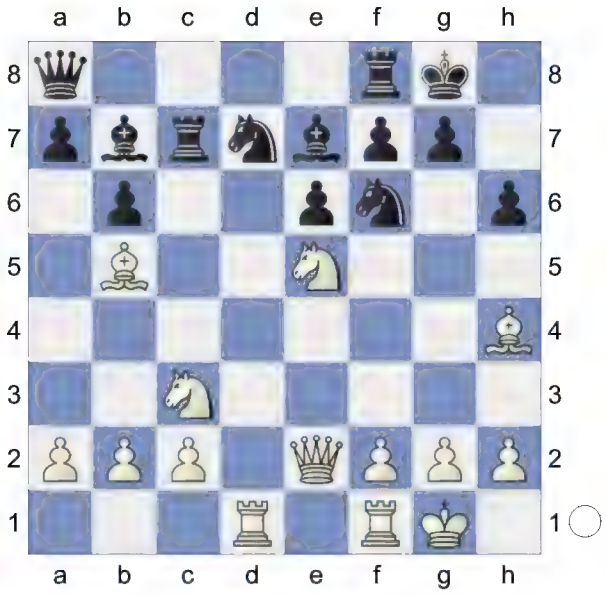


11.Nc3 Bb7 12.Qe2 Rc8 0.28/20
[12...Bxf3∓ -0.48/21 13.gxf3 Bd4]
13.Rad1= Be7 0.82/21
[13...Qe8= 0.08/18]
14.Bb5± Rc7 15.Ne5

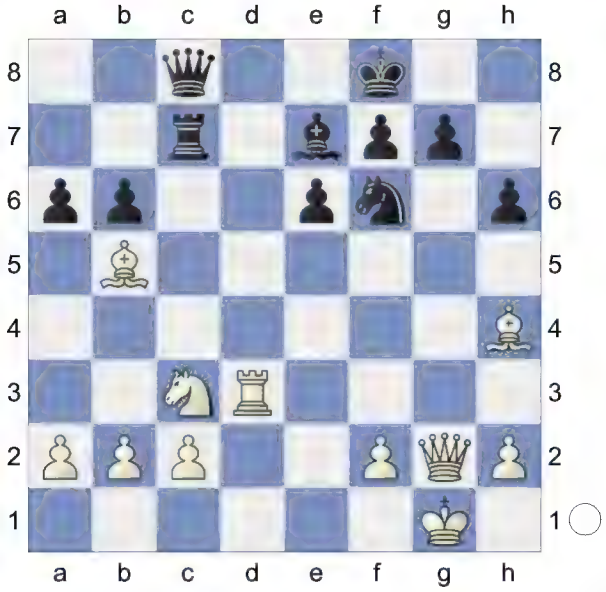


Bh4xf6 would now be deadly. White is more active. **15...Qa8?** 2.81/23

(Diagram)

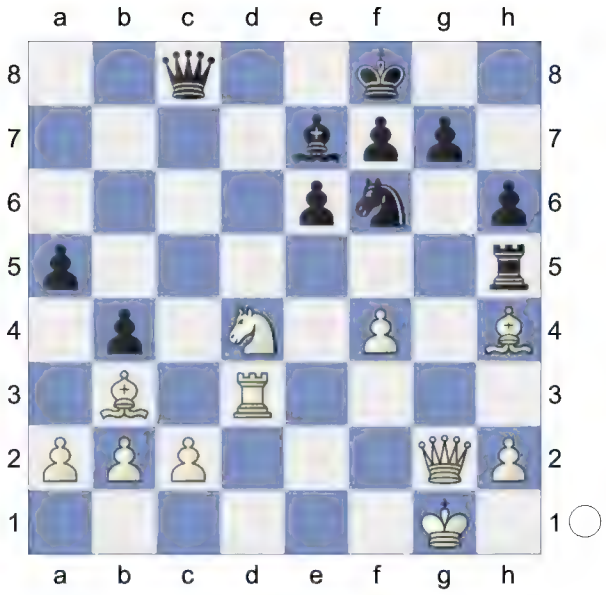


16.Nxd7+- Bxg2 17.Nxf8 Bxf1 18.Qxf1 Kxf8 19.Qg2 Qc8 20.Rd3 a6

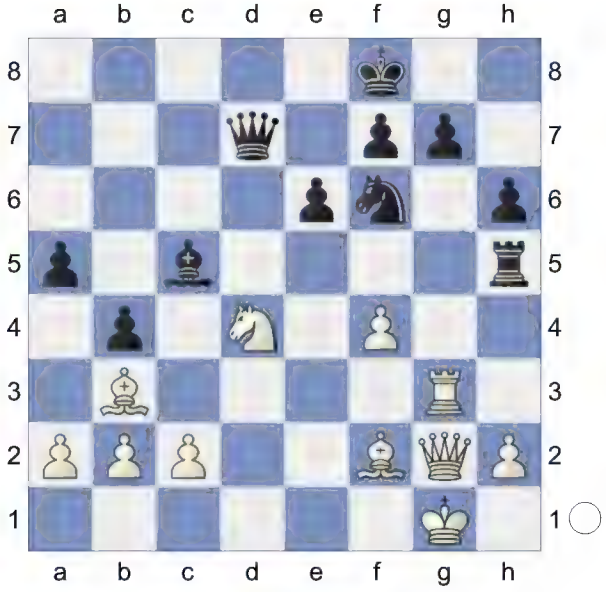


21.Ba4 b5 22.Bb3 b4 23.Ne2 Rc5 24.f4 a5 25.Nd4 Rh5

(Diagram)

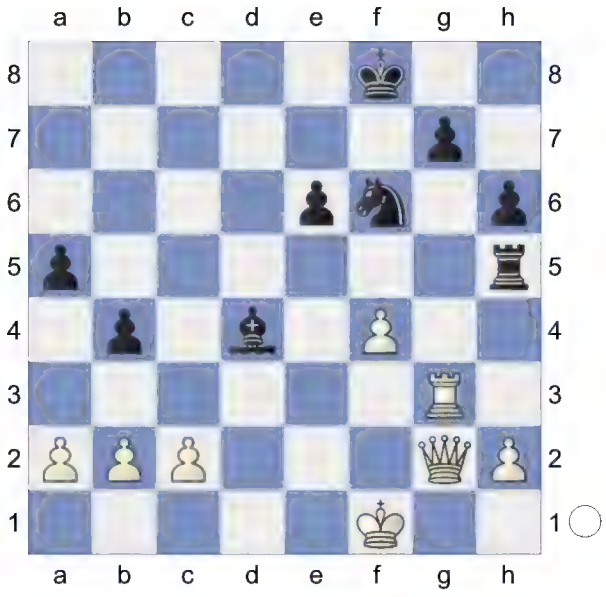


26.Bf2 Bc5 27.Rg3 Qd7? 4.69/23
[27...Qb8 1.96/20 might work better. 28.Qf3 *(28.Rxg7 Qxf4 29.Qb7 Rg5+ 30.Kf1 Qc1+ 31.Be1 Qf4+ 32.Bf2 Qc1+ 33.Be1 Kxg7=)* 28...Kg8]

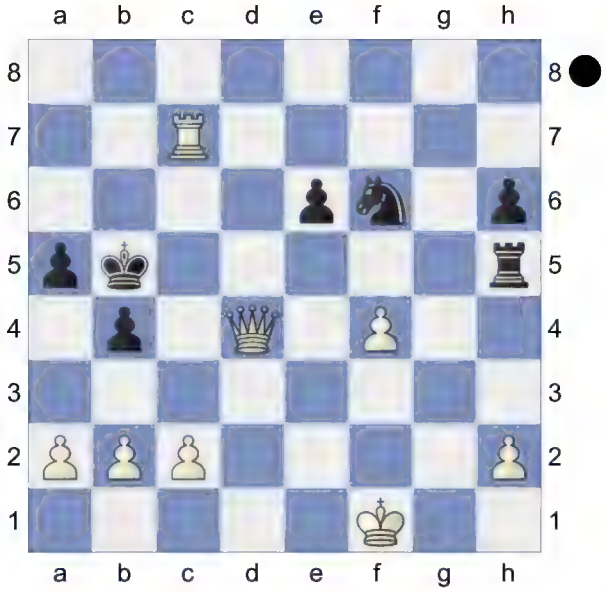


28.Bxe6! Qxd4
[28...fxe6 29.Rxg7]
29.Bxd4 Bxd4+ 30.Kf1
White threatens Qg2-b7! and mate.
30...fxe6

(Diagram)



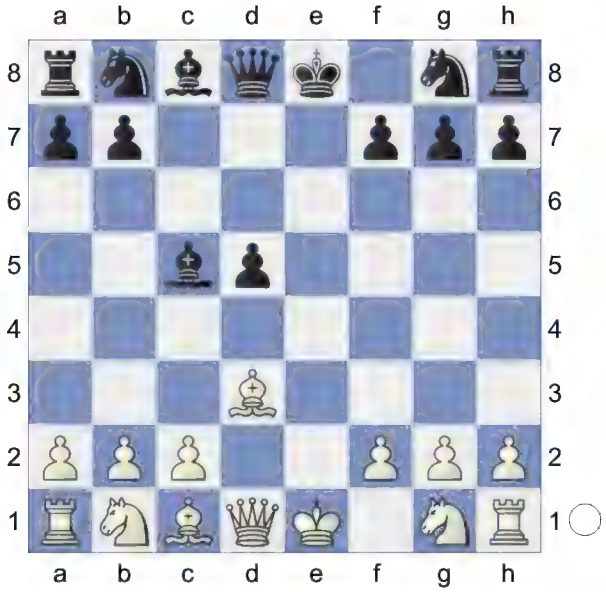
31.Qa8+ Deflection **31...Ke7 32.Rxg7+ Kd6 33.Qd8+ Kc5 34.Rc7+ Kb5 35.Qxd4**



Black did not feel at home in the position after the opening.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/ Black=0.57
1-0

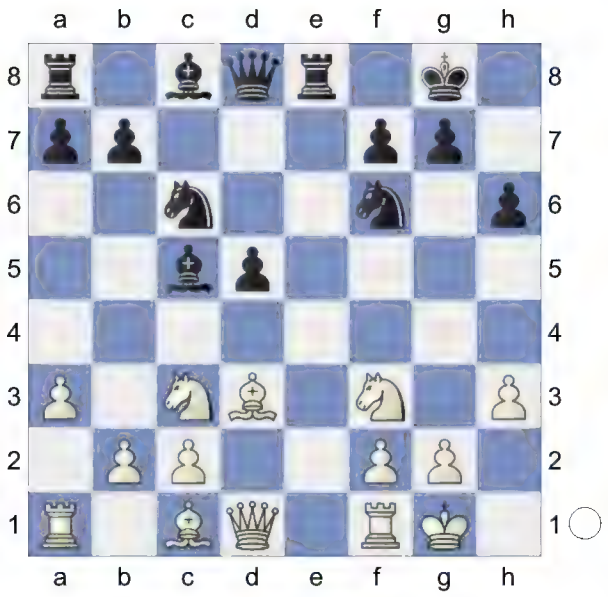
5 **C01**
□ **Protagonist98** **2747**
■ **Anonymouslogin111** **2757**
Blitz 30.07.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.exd5 exd5 5.dxc5 Bxc5



6.Nf3 Nf6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc3 Nc6 9.h3 Re8 10.a3 -0.25/20
[⌓10.Bg5 0.11/20]
10...h6

(Diagram)



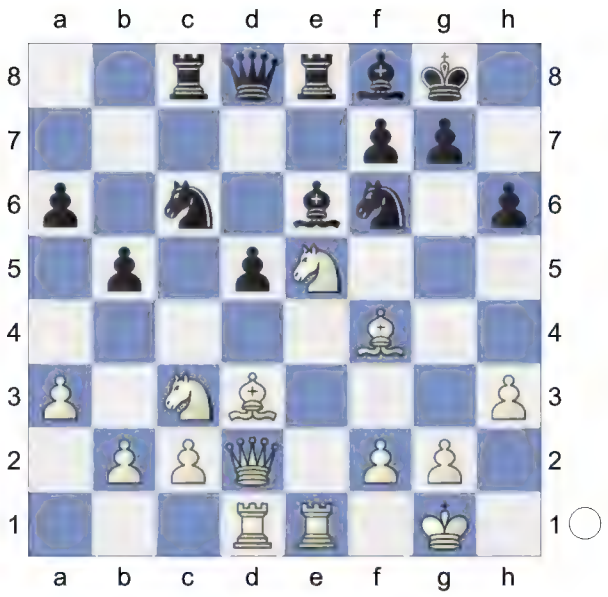
Black has an edge. **11.Bf4 Be6 12.Qd2 Rc8 13.Rfe1 a6 14.Rad1**

[14.Rab1 is more complex. b5 15.b4 Bb6 16.Bxh6 gxh6 17.Qxh6 Nd4 18.Nxd4 Bxd4 19.Ne2]

14...b5 15.Ne5 Bf8N

[15...Nxe5 16.Bxe5 Nd7 17.Bg3 *(17.Bf4 Qh4 18.Bf1 Nb6 19.Be3 Nc4 20.Bxc4 dxc4 21.Bxc5 Rxc5 22.Qd6 Rg5 23.Re3 Rf8 24.Ne2 Rg6 25.Nf4 Rf6 26.g3 Qg5 27.Re5 Rf5 28.Nxe6 fxe6 29.Qxe6+ Kh7 30.Rxf5 Qxf5 31.Qxf5+ Rxf5* (42) Decker,P-Noshin,A Chigorin mem 1947 *32.c3 h5 33.Rd6 a5 34.Rd4 a4 35.f4 g5 36.Kg2 gxf4 37.gxf4 Kg6 38.Kf3 Rc5 39.Ke4 Kf6 40.Rd6+ Ke7 41.Rd5* (42) Chapter-Games Chapter 5 Game 15) 17...Nb6 3. exd5 exd5-5.Bd3 c5 6. dxc5 #4]

(Diagram)



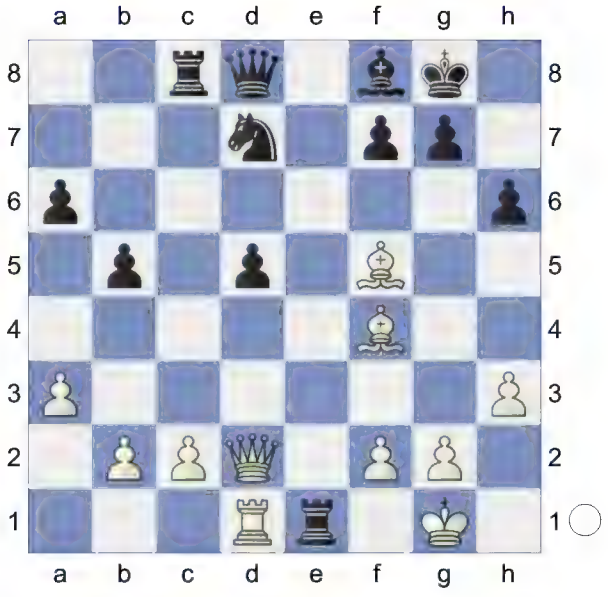
16.Nxc6 Rxc6 17.Ne2 Rc8 18.Nd4 Nd7 1.12/21

[18...Bd7± 0.32/19]

19.Nxe6

[19.a4 seems wilder. Nc5 20.axb5 axb5 21.Bxb5 Bd7 22.Rxe8 Qxe8 23.c4]

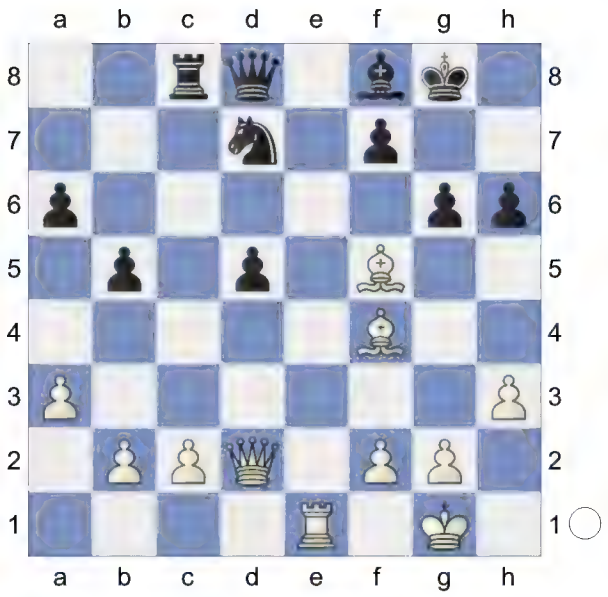
19...Rxe6 20.Bf5! A strong pair of Bishops. **20...Rxe1+**



21.Rxe1 g6 1.26/21

[21...Rc4± 0.63/19]

(Diagram)



22.Bxg6!± White has more active pieces. **22...fxg6 23.Qxd5+ Kh8 24.Rd1** Black must now prevent Qd5-b7. **24...Bg7?** 3.52/22

[24...Qe8± 1.42/21 keeps fighting.]

25.c3

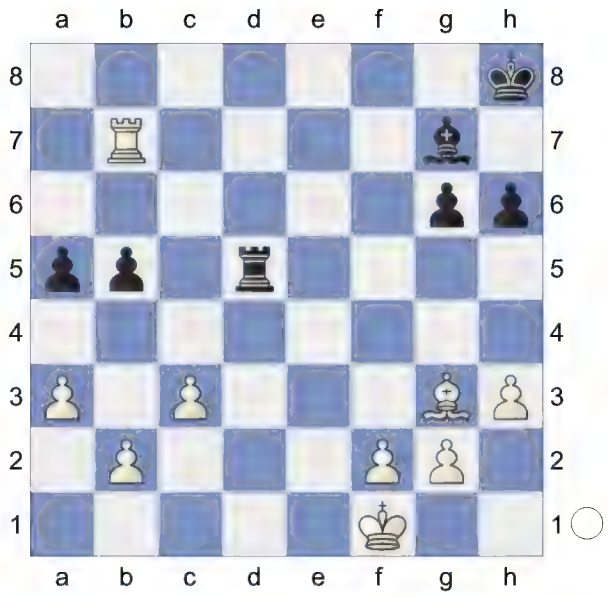
[25.Qxd7 Qxd7 26.Rxd7 Bxb2±]

25...Rc4

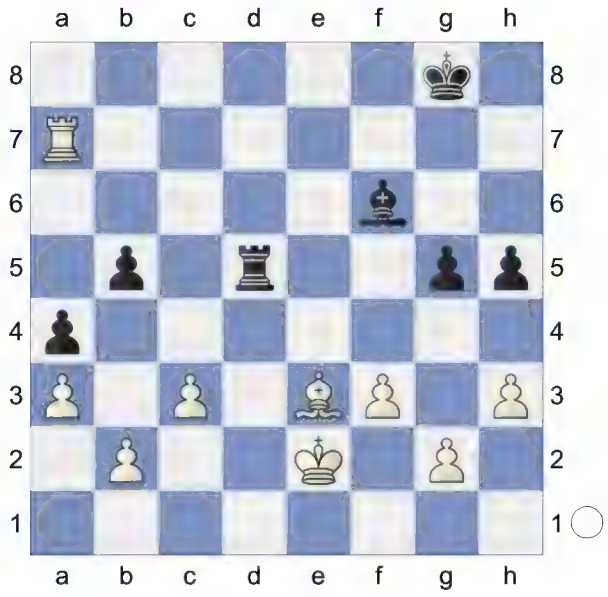
26.Bg3

[26.Qxd7? Qxd7 27.Rxd7 Rxf4-+]

26...Qe7 27.Qxd7 Qxd7 28.Rxd7+- Endgame. KRB-KRB **28...a5 29.Rb7 Rc5 30.Kf1 Rd5**

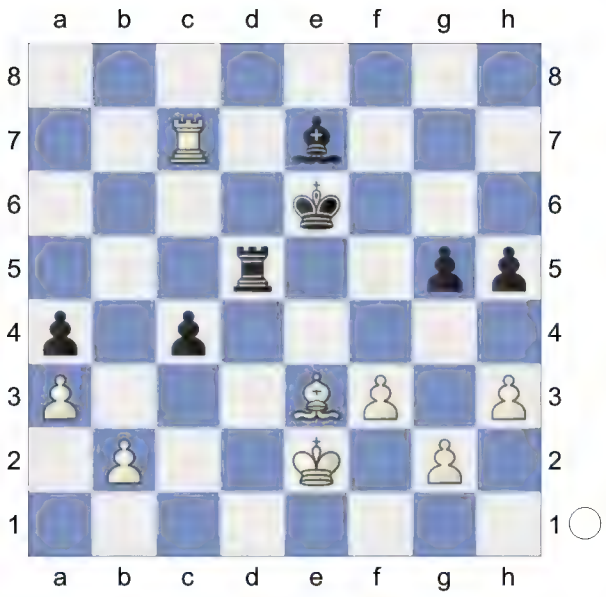


31.Ke2 h5 32.Bf4 Kg8 33.Be3 g5 34.f3 Bf6 35.Ra7 a4

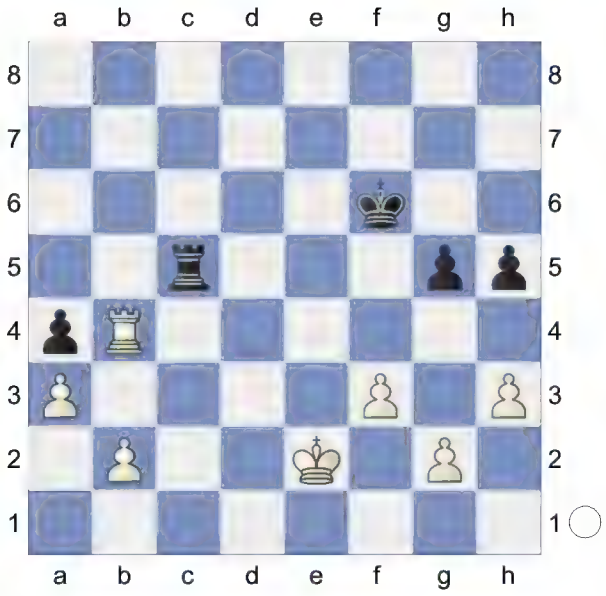


36.Rb7 Kf8 37.Rb6 Kf7 38.Rc6 Be7 39.Rc7 Ke6 40.c4 bxc4

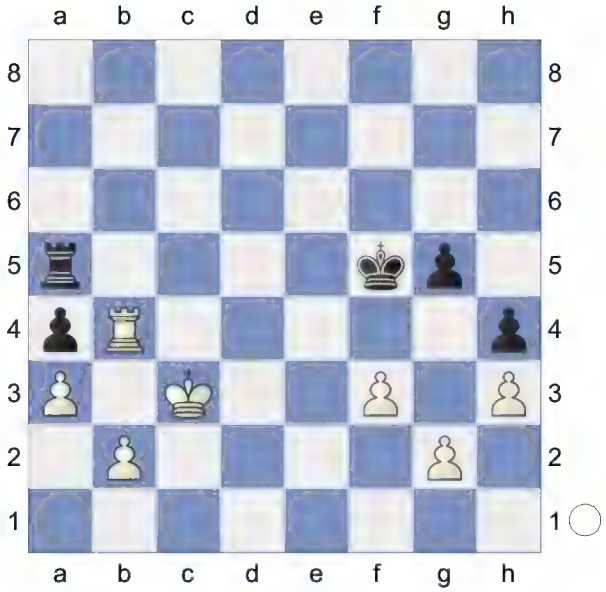
(Diagram)



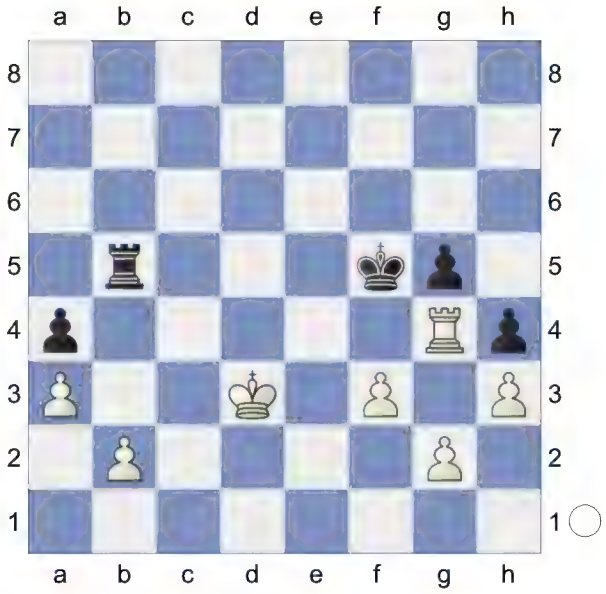
41.Rxc4 Rb5 42.Re4+
[42.Rxa4 Rxb2+ 43.Bd2 Bd6+-]
42...Kf7 43.Bd4
[43.Rxa4?! Rxb2+ 44.Bd2 Bf6+-]
43...Bf6 44.Bxf6 Discovered Attack
44...Kxf6 KR-KR **45.Rb4**
[45.Rxa4 Rxb2+ 46.Kf1 Ra2±]
45...Rc5



46.Kd3
[46.Rxa4 Rc2+ 47.Kf1 Rxb2=]
46...Ra5 47.Rb6+ Kf5 48.Rb4? -0.01/18
[48.g3+- 2.49/22]
48...h4? 3.49/27
[48...Kf6!= -0.01/18 49.Kc2 Kg7]
49.Kd4 Kf4 50.Kc3+ Kf5



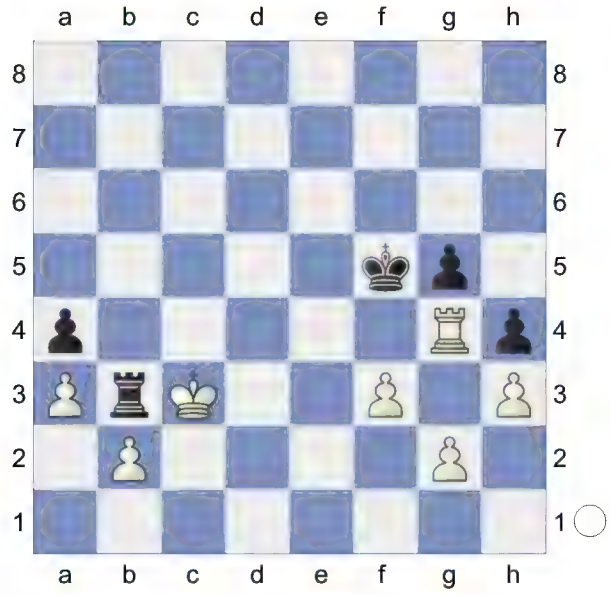
51.Rg4 Re5? 6.89/25
[51...Kf6 2.73/25 52.f4 gxf4 53.Rxf4+ Kg5 54.Rg4+ Kh5]
52.Kd2 2.81/26
[⌓52.Rxa4 6.89/25 Ke6 53.Re4 Rxe4 54.fxe4]
52...Rd5+ 53.Kc2
[53.Kc3 Ra5 54.Kb4 Ra7+-]
53...Rc5+ 54.Kd3 Rb5



55.Kc3 0.01/23

[55.Rxa4 Rxb2 56.Rg4 Rb3+ 57.Ke2 Rxa3=]
[55.b4!+- 2.39/25 axb3 56.Rb4 *(56.f4? gxf4 57.Rxh4 Rb8-+)*]

55...Rb3+? 5.99/23
[55...Re5!= 0.01/23 and Black stays safe. 56.Rxa4 Re3+ 57.Kd2 Re7]

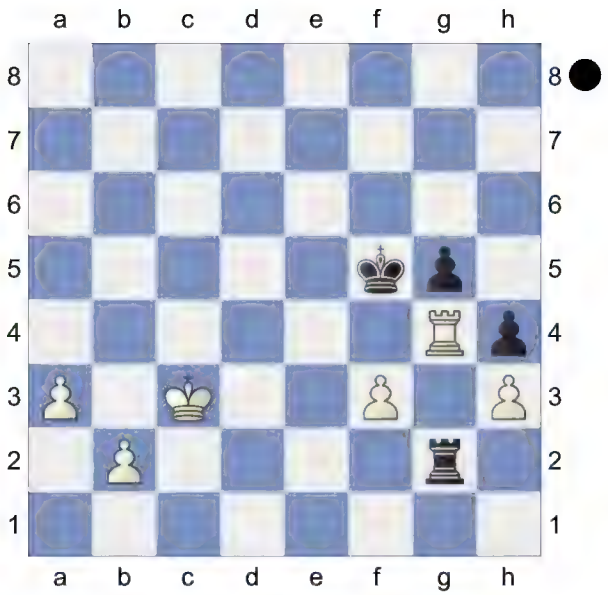


56.Kc2 Re3 57.Rxa4? 0.97/22
[57.Kd2+- 6.77/25 has better winning chances. Rb3 58.Kc1 *(58.Rxa4 Rxb2+ 59.Ke3 Rxg2=; 58.Kc2 Re3+-)*]

57...Re2+± 58.Kc3 0.01/21
[58.Kd1± 1.47/21 Rxg2 59.b4]

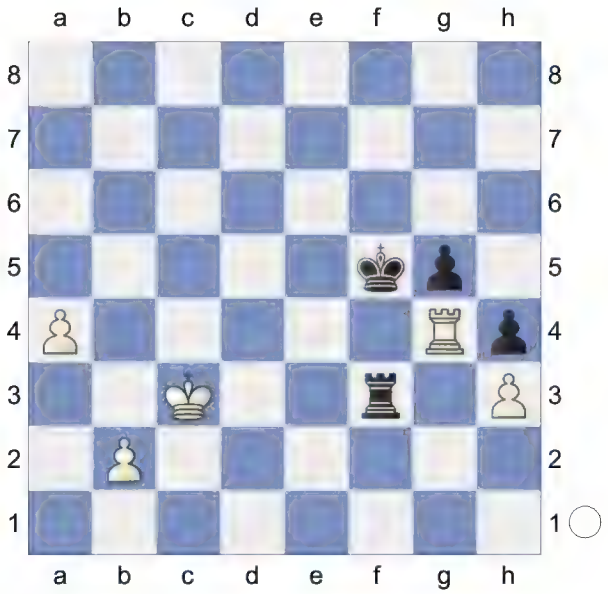
58...Rxg2= 59.Rg4 -0.88/24
[59.b4= 0.04/19 Rg3 60.b5 Rxh3 *(60...Rxf3+ 61.Kb2±)* 61.b6 Rxf3+ 62.Kc4 Rf4+ 63.Kc5 Rxa4 64.b7 Rxa3 *(64...Ra5+? 65.Kb4+-)* 65.b8Q *(65.b8B Ra2 66.Kc4 h3 67.Bg3 h2 68.Kb3 h1Q 69.Kxa2 Qf3 70.Bd6 Ke4 71.Be7 Kd3 72.Ka3 Kc4+ 73.Kb2 Qe2+ 74.Kb1 Kb3)*]

(Diagram)



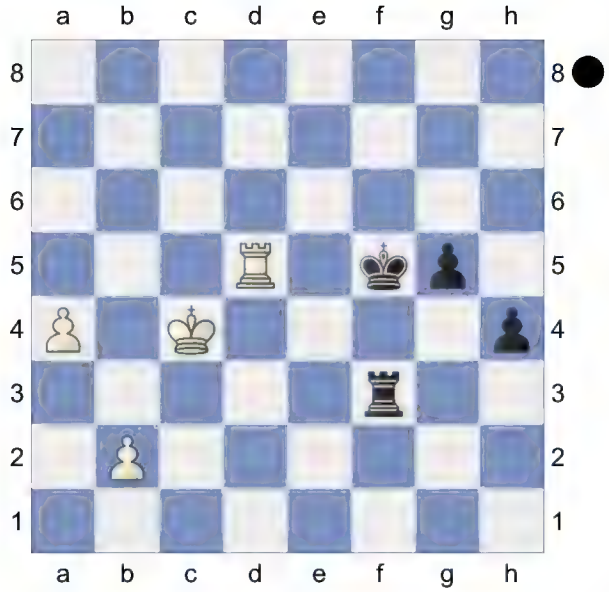
59...Rg3!∓ 60.a4? -3.85/20
[60.Rxg3 hxg3 61.b4 g2-+]
[60.Kd4∓ -0.94/18 Rxf3 61.a4]

60...Rxf3+? -0.92/19
[60...Rxh3-+ -3.85/20 61.Rg1 Rxf3+ 62.Kc2 Rf2+ *(62...g4? 63.a5-+)* 63.Kd3 h3 *(63...Rxb2? 64.Kc3-+)*]



61.Kc4? -3.64/20
[61.Kd4∓ -0.92/19]

61...Rxh3-+ 62.Rd4 Rf3 Strongly threatening ...Rf3-f4. **63.Rd5+?** -6.09/19
[63.a5 -3.19/18 h3 64.a6]

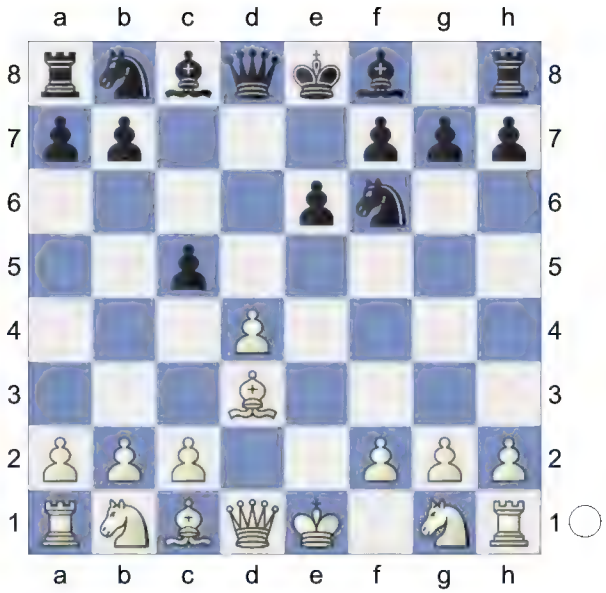


Weighted Error Value: White=0.75/ Black=0.63. Loss on time!?
1-0

6 **D40**
□ **Roma Matinyan271988** **2723**
■ **Notkevich** **2728**
Blitz 05.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

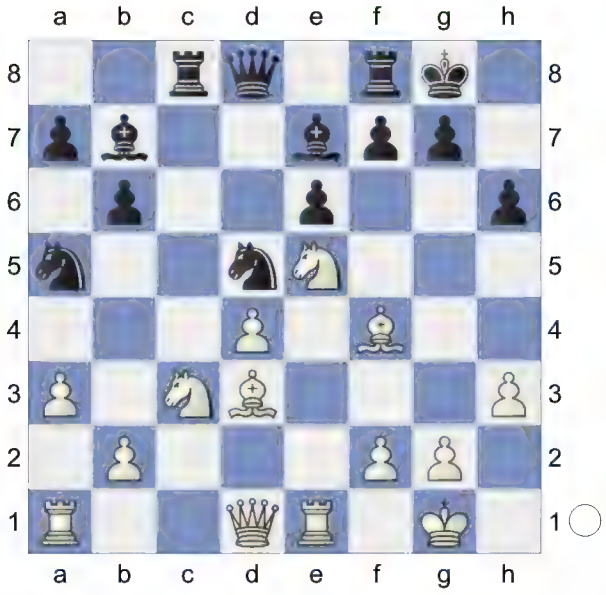
Blitz 3min
D40: Queen's Gambit Declined: Semi-Tarrasch with 5 e3
ILN 2 Aug 1873; 'An interesting little game played...by correspondence' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bd3 c5**

(Diagram)



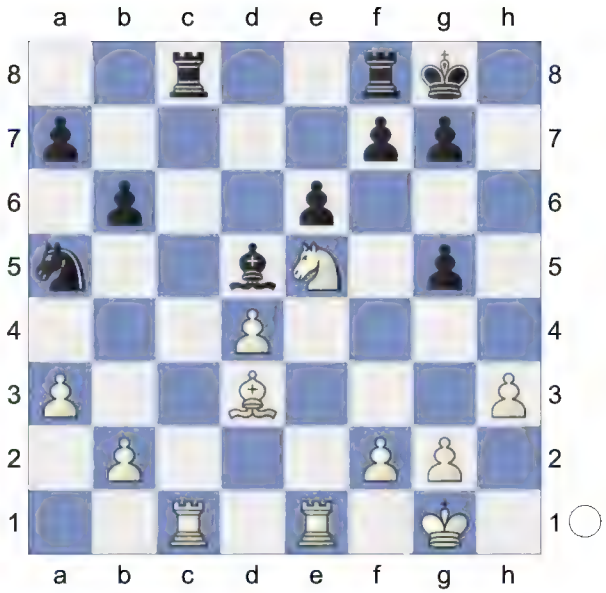
6.c3 cxd4 7.cxd4 Nc6 8.Nf3 Be7N
[8...Bd6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Bg5 Nb4 11.Nc3 Nxd3 12.Qxd3 b6 13.Rfe1 Bb7 14.Ne5 h6 15.Bh4 Be7 16.Rad1 Nd5 17.Bg3 Nxc3 18.bxc3 Qd5 19.f3 Qxa2 20.Ng4 Rfd8 21.Ra1 Qb3 22.Re5 Rd5 23.Rae1 ½-½ (28) Thorold,E-Halford,J Halford-Thorold match 1873 Rc8 24.Rxe6 fxe6 25.Qg6 Rf8 26.Nxh6+ Kh8 27.Nf7+ Kg8 28.Nh6+ ½-½ Zumholz,J-Herman,J Berlin-ch U18 2006]
9.0-0 0-0 10.Nc3 b6

11.Re1 Bb7 12.h3 h6 Black has an edge. **13.a3 Rc8**
[13...Nxd4? 14.Nxd4 Qb8 *(14...Qxd4? 15.Bh7+* Discovered Attack *Kxh7 16.Qxd4+-)* 15.Qe2+-]
14.Bf4 Na5
[14...Nxd4? 15.Nxd4 Rc5 *(15...Qxd4? 16.Bh7+* Discovered Attack *Nxh7 17.Qxd4+-)* 16.Nb3+-]
[14...Bd6 simplifies 15.Be5 Bb8 16.Bxb8 Nxb8 17.Rc1 Bxf3 18.Qxf3 Qxd4 19.Rcd1 Qc5]
15.Ne5 Nd5
[15...Qxd4? perishes. 16.Bh7+ Kxh7 17.Qxd4+-]

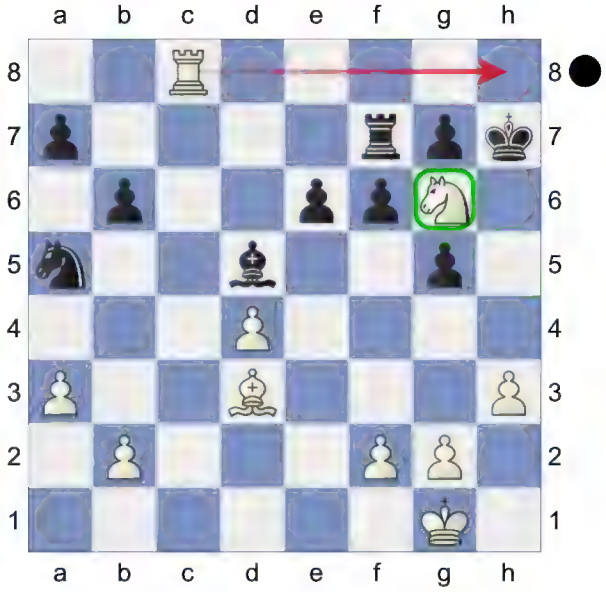


Prevents Re1-e3 **16.Nxd5 Bxd5 17.Qg4 Bg5 18.Rac1 Bxf4 19.Qxf4 Qg5 20.Qxg5→** White is up to no good. **20...hxg5**

(Diagram)

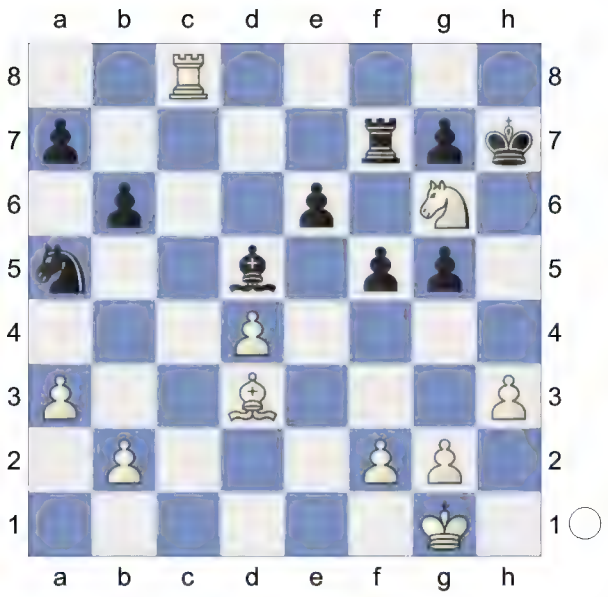


21.Ba6 Rxc1 22.Rxc1 f6 23.Ng6 Rf7 24.Rc8+ Kh7 25.Bd3

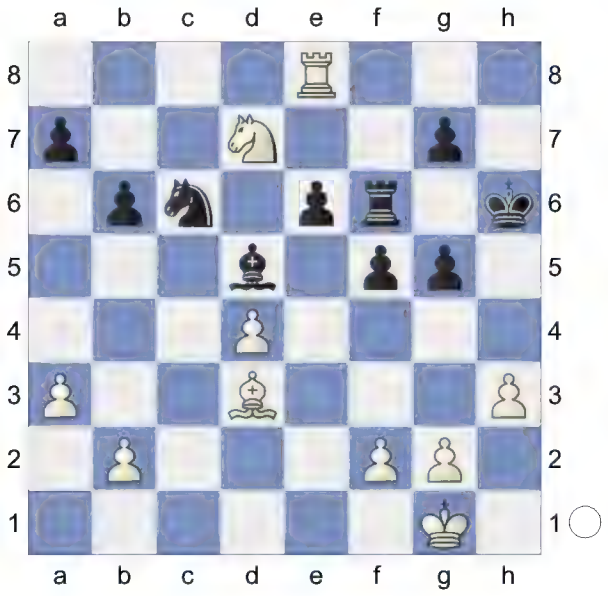


f5

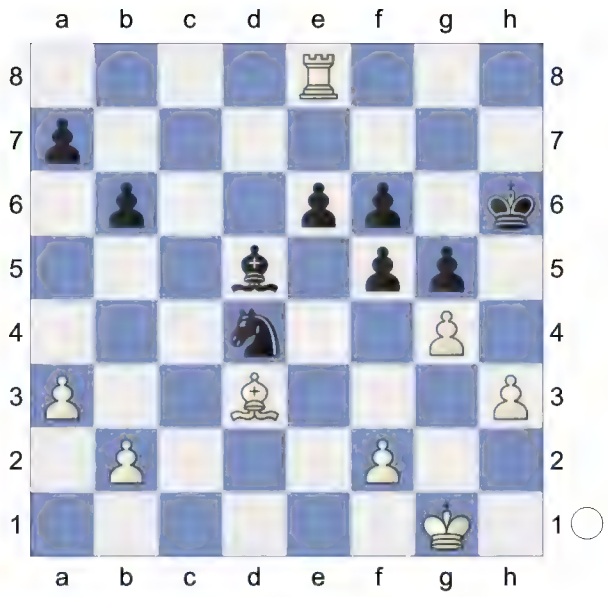
(Diagram)



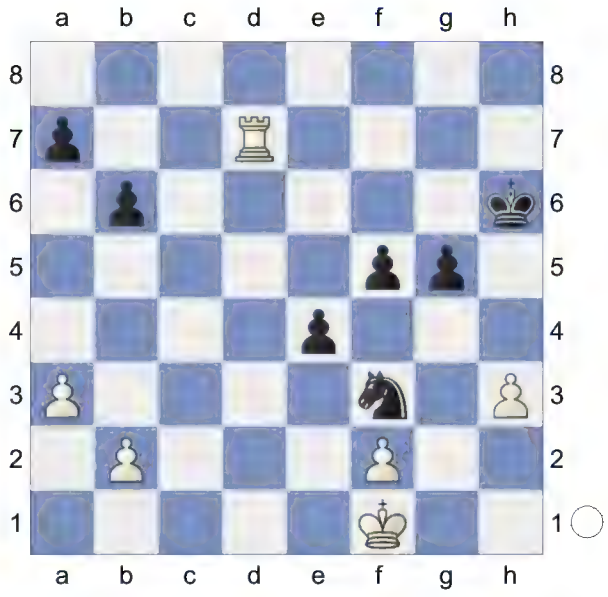
26.Nf8+ Kh6 27.Re8 Rf6? 3.62/27
A mistake that costs the game.
[27...Nc4± 0.82/23 keeps fighting.]
28.Nd7+- Re8-h8+ would kill now.
28...Nc6? 6.41/25
[28...Kg6 3.89/25 29.Rh8 *(29.Nxf6 gxf6 30.Rd8 Nb3+-)* 29...Rf7]



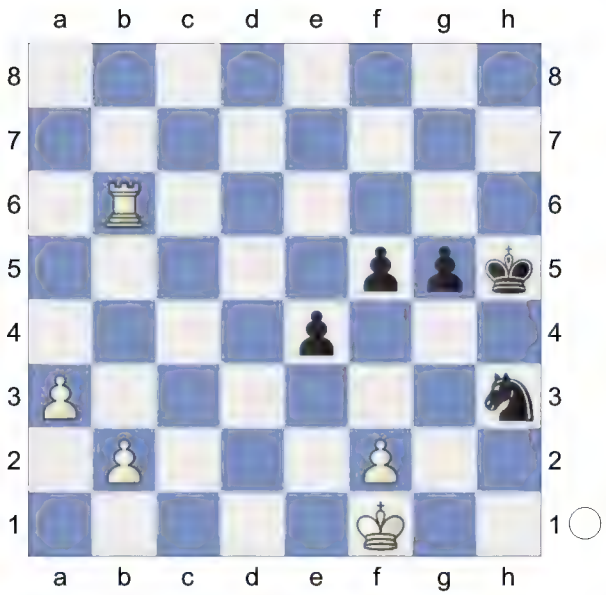
29.Nxf6? 2.43/25
[29.Bb5 6.41/25 Rf7 30.Bxc6 *(30.Rh8+ Kg6+-)*]
29...gxf6 Endgame. KRB-KBN **30.g4 Nxd4**



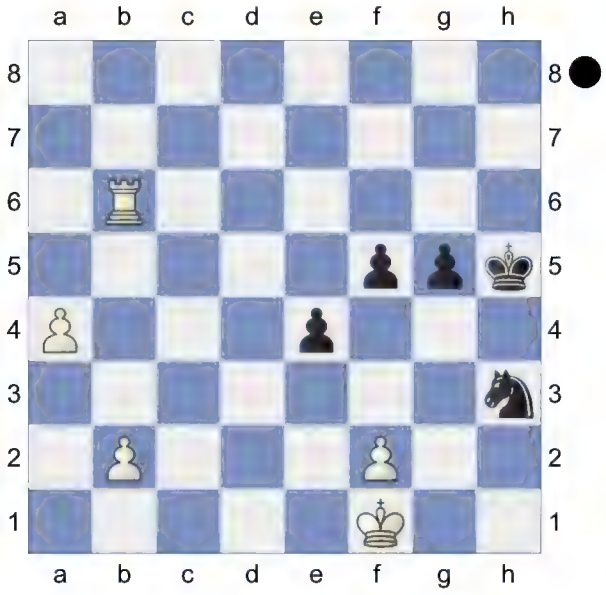
31.gxf5 exf5 32.Rd8 Nf3+ 33.Kf1 Be4 5.60/24
[⌓33...Ba2 3.53/24 34.Bxf5 Bc4+ 35.Bd3 Be6 36.Rh8+ Kg7 37.Rh7+ Kg8 38.Rxa7 Bxh3+ 39.Ke2 Ne5]
34.Bxe4 White is clearly winning.
34...fxe4 KR-KN **35.Rd7 f5** 7.08/23
[⌓35...a5 4.28/23 36.Rd6 Kg7 37.Rxb6 Nd4]



36.Rxa7 Nd2+ 37.Ke2 Nf3 38.Rb7 Ng1+ 39.Kf1 Nxh3 40.Rxb6+ Kh5
(Diagram)



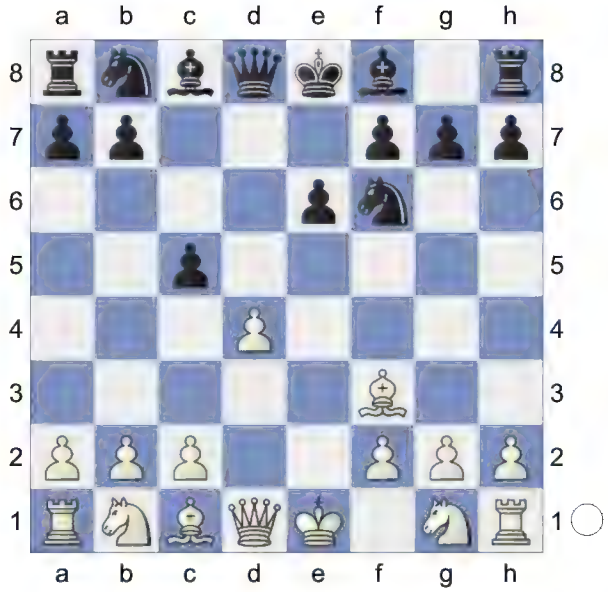
41.a4



Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.65
1-0

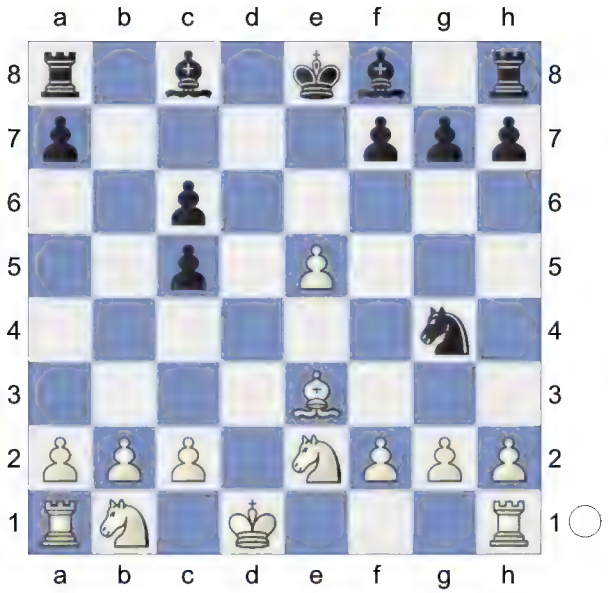
7 **C01**
□ **Zayats71** **2703**
■ **Chainsoffantasia** **2662**
Blitz 26.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5



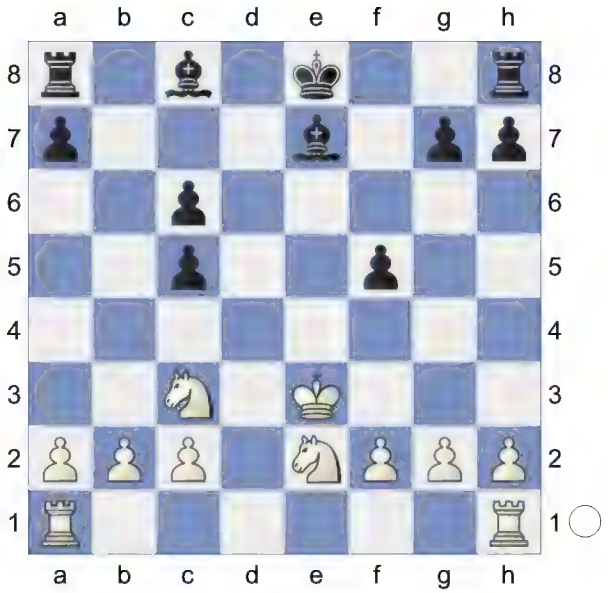
6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 e5 Threatens to win with ...e5-e4. **8.Bxc6+**
[8.dxc5 Qxd1+ 9.Kxd1 e4 10.Bxe4 Nxe4-+]
8...bxc6 The position is equal. **9.dxe5 Qxd1+ 10.Kxd1 Ng4**

(Diagram)



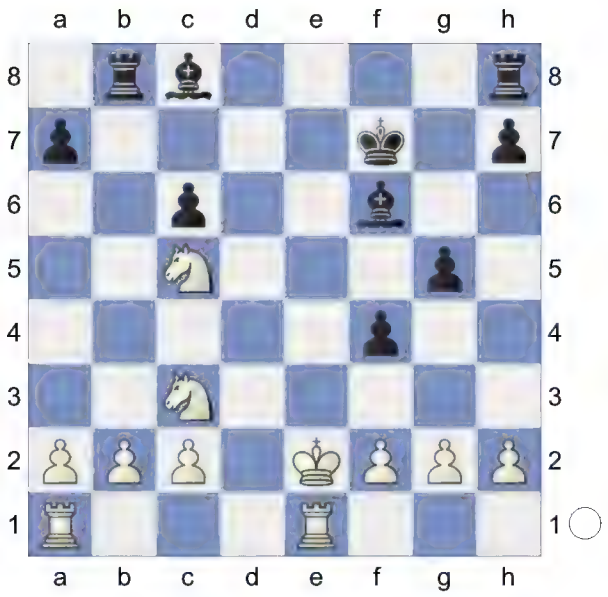
11.Nd2 Nxe5 12.Ne4N -0.62/20
[12.Re1± 0.50/19 Ba6 *(12...Ng4 13.Nf4 Nxe3+ 14.Rxe3+ Be7 15.Ke2 Bg4+ 16.f3 Bf5 17.Ne4 0-0-0 18.Rd1 Rxd1 19.Kxd1 Rd8+ 20.Ke2 Rd4 21.c3 Ra4 22.a3 Bxe4 23.Rxe4 Rxe4+ 24.fxe4 Bd6 25.g3 Kd7 26.Kd3 g5 27.Ng2* (56) 8. Model games-1-0 Arribas Lopez,A *)* 13.Bf4 Nc4 14.Ng3+ Kd7 15.b3 Nxd2 16.Kxd2 Rd8 17.c4 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-7...e5 #2]
[12.h3 Be7 13.Nc3 Be6 14.Nce4 Nd7 15.f3 f5 16.Nf2 c4 17.Re1 Kf7 18.Ke2 Bf6 19.Rab1 Nb6 20.g4 g6 21.f4 Rhe8 22.g5 Bg7 23.Nd1 Nd5 24.c3 Nc7 25.Kf2 Bd5 26.Nf3 Ne6 0-1 (45) Triapishko,O (2506)-Shimanov,A (2623) 133/101 Russia 2017]
12...Ng4!∓ 13.Kd2 Nxe3
[13...Bf5 seems wilder. 14.N2g3 0-0-0+ 15.Ke2 Nxe3 16.Kxe3 Be6]
14.Kxe3 f5 15.N4c3 Be7

(Diagram)

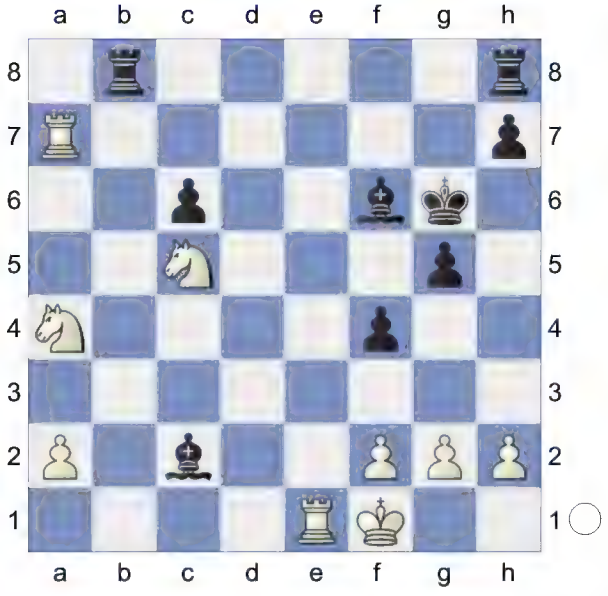


16.Rhe1 Kf7 17.Nf4 -0.81/17
[17.Rad1∓ -0.44/17 should be considered.]
17...g5 -0.01/18
[Better is 17...c4∓ -0.81/17 White should prevent ...Ra8-b8. 18.Rab1 g5]
18.Nd3= Bf6 With the idea ...c5-c4.
19.Nxc5 -0.38/19
[19.Kd2= -0.01/19]
19...f4+ 0.47/19
[19...Rb8∓ -0.38/19 20.N3a4 Rb4]
20.Ke2 -0.08/19
[20.Kd2!± 0.47/19]
20...Rb8

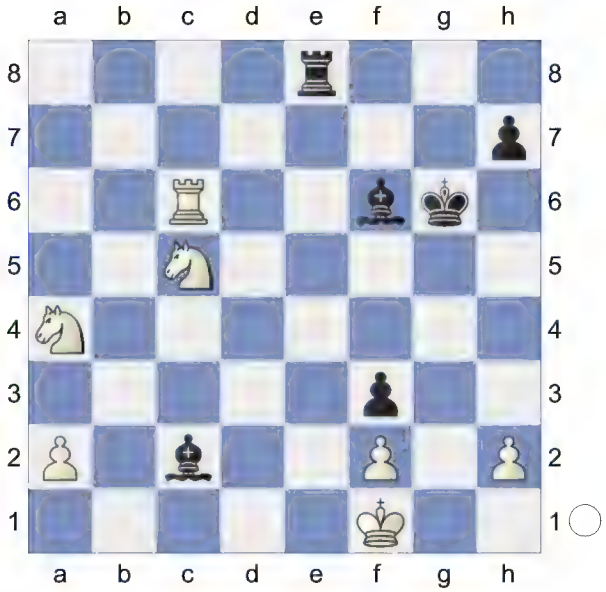
(Diagram)



21.N3a4 -0.51/20
[21.N5e4= -0.11/20 is more appropriate.]
21...Bf5 -0.14/20
[21...Re8+∓ -0.51/20 feels stronger. 22.Kd2 Rd8+ 23.Ke2 Bxb2]
22.Rad1 Bxc2 0.01/21
[22...Bxb2∓ -0.44/20 23.Kf1 Bf6 *(23...Bxc2 24.Rd7+ Kg6 25.Nxb2=)*]
23.Rd7+ Kg6 24.Rxa7 Bxb2
A strong pair of Bishops. **25.Kf1 Bf6↑**

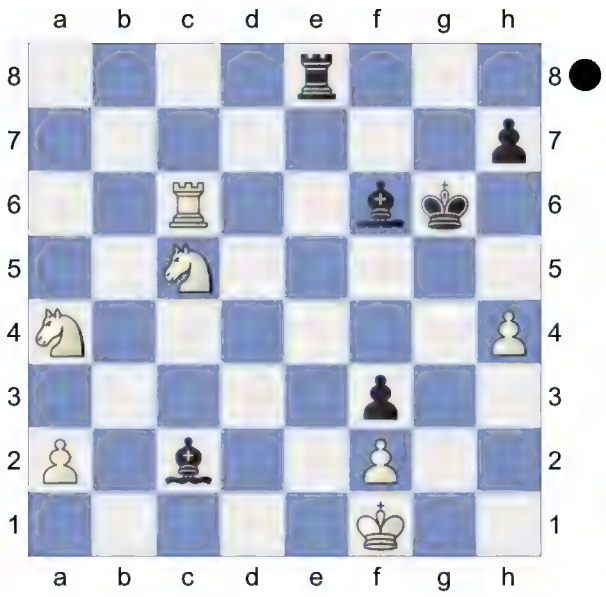


Black has the initiative. **26.Re6** -1.93/22
[White should play 26.Rc1∓ -0.64/19 Rb1 27.Rxb1 Bxb1 28.Rc7]
26...Rhe8 -1.47/21
[26...Rb1+-+ -1.93/22 27.Re1 Rxe1+ 28.Kxe1 Rd8]
27.Rxe8∓ Rxe8 28.Ra6 -2.68/22
[28.h3∓ -1.56/20]
28...g4 -1.31/20
[28...Bd1-+ -2.68/22 and Black stays clearly on top. 29.Rxc6 Be2+ 30.Kg1 Bb5 31.Rxf6+ Kxf6]
29.Rxc6 f3 -0.33/21 Black is more active.
[29...Kf5∓ -1.40/23 ...f4-f3 would now be deadly. 30.h3 g3 31.fxg3 fxg3]
30.gxf3 gxf3

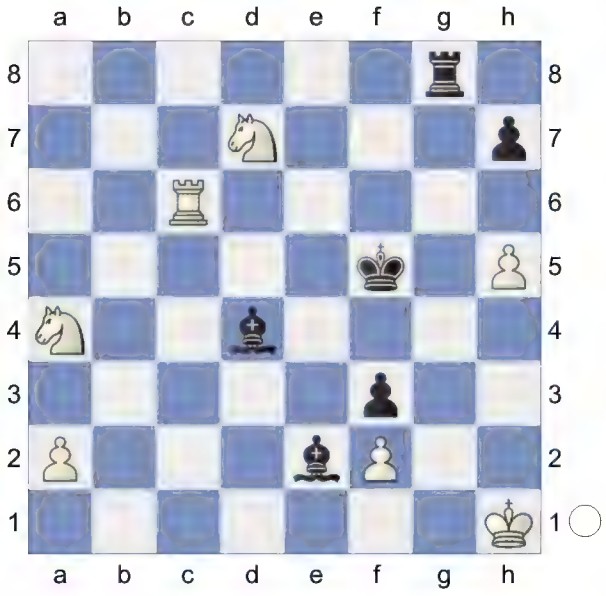


31.h4? -3.15/22
[31.Nb6∓ -0.81/21 Bf5 32.h4]

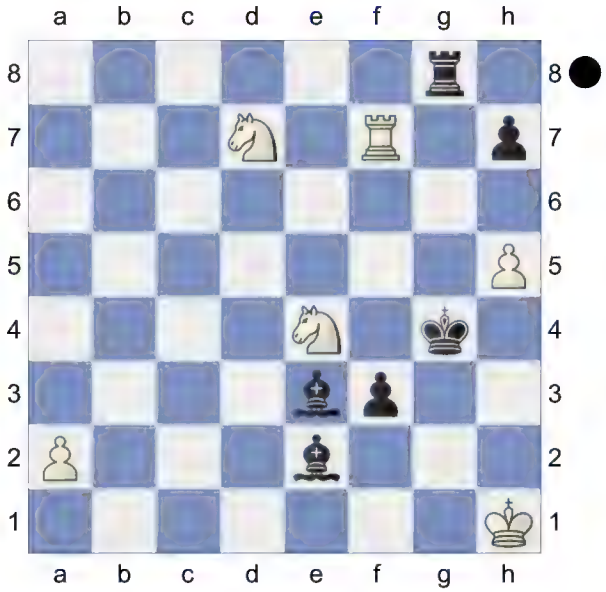
(Diagram)



31...Kf5!-+ Hoping for ...Re8-d8! **32.h5** -5.00/23
[32.Rd6 -3.16/22 might work better.]
32...Bd1 -2.18/21
[⌓32...Rd8 -5.00/23 33.Rxf6+ Kxf6]
33.Nd7? -7.87/22
[33.Rd6 -2.18/21 Be2+ 34.Ke1]
33...Be2+
[33...Bxa4 34.Rxf6+ Kg4 35.Rf7 Kxh5 36.Rf5+ Kg6 37.Rd5=]
34.Kg1 Rg8+ 35.Kh1 Bd4

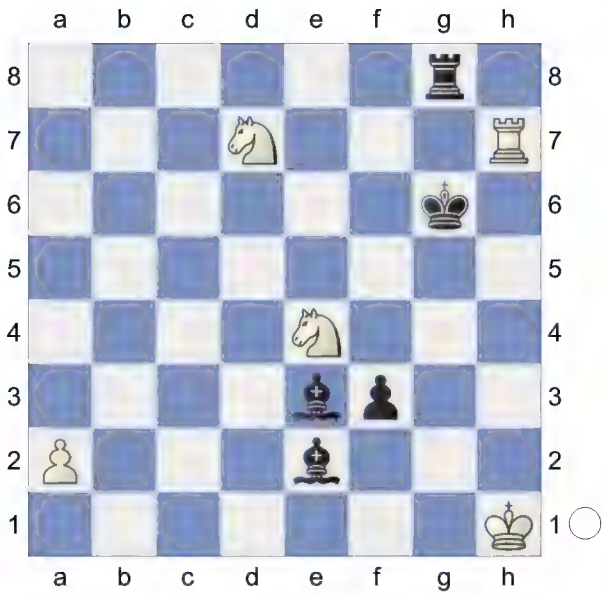


36.Nc3 -7.79/21
[⌓36.Nac5 -4.82/22]
36...Bxf2? -0.40/22
[36...Rg2-+ -7.79/21 37.Nd5 Rxf2 *(37...Bxf2? 38.Rf6+ Kg4 39.Rf7-+)*]
37.Rf6+∓ Kg4 38.Ne4? -4.74/24
White is now going downhill.
[38.Ne5+∓ -0.38/22 Kh3 *(38...Kxh5 39.Nxf3 Bf1 40.Ng5=)* 39.Nxf3]
38...Be3? -1.02/21
[38...Bd4-+ -4.74/24 (-> ...Kg4-h3!) 39.Rd6 f2 40.Nxf2+ Bxf2]
39.Rf7? -#4/11
[39.Ne5+∓ -1.02/21 Kh3 40.Nxf3]



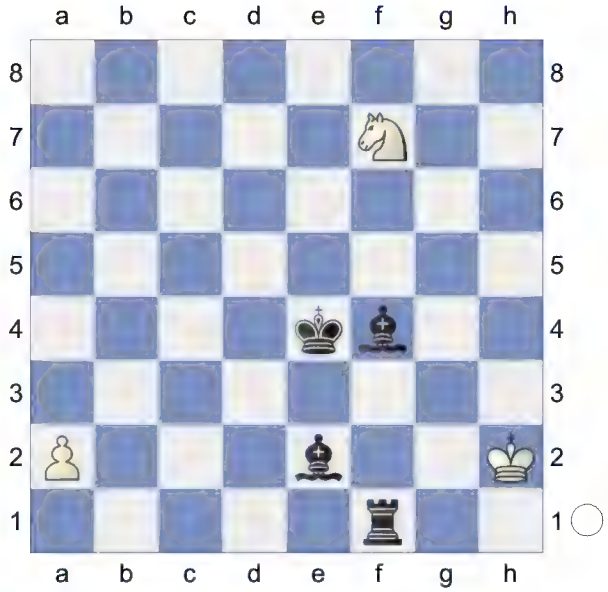
39...Kxh5? -0.01/22
[39...Kh3 -#4/11 mates 40.Rg7 Rxg7 41.Ng3 Rxg3 42.Nf8 Rg1#]
40.Rxh7+? -6.97/24
[40.Ne5= -0.01/22 Kh6 *(40...Rg1+ 41.Kh2±)* 41.Rf5]
40...Kg6-+

(Diagram)

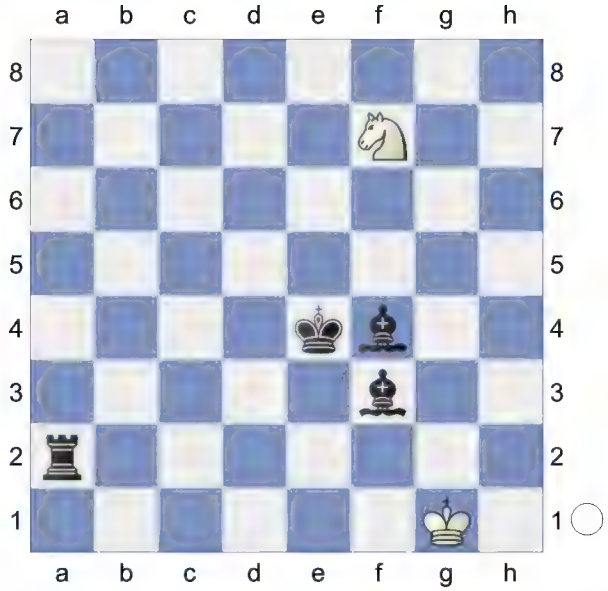


41.Rh3 Rd8 42.Rg3+ -#13/20
[42.Ne5+-+ -5.07/23 Kf5 43.Ng3+ Kxe5 *(43...Kf4? 44.Ng6+ Kg4 45.Kh2-+)* 44.Nxe2 Rd1+ 45.Kh2 Bf4+ *(45...fxe2 46.Rxe3+ Kf4 47.Rxe2=)* 46.Nxf4 Kxf4 47.Rh4+ Ke3 48.Rh3]
42...Kf5 43.Nd6+ Kf4 44.Nf7 Rxd7 45.Rg7 Rd1+

46.Kh2 f2 47.Nh6 f1Q -13.67/5
[⌓47...Rh1+ -#5/12 48.Kxh1 f1Q+ *(48...f1B 49.a4∓)* 49.Kh2 Qf2+ 50.Kh3 Bf1+ Discovered Attack 51.Rg2 Qg3# Pin]
48.Rf7+ Ke4 Black mates. **49.Rxf1 Rxf1 50.Nf7 Bf4+**



51.Kh3 Rh1+ 52.Kg2 Bf3+ 53.Kf2 Rh2+ 54.Kg1 Rxa2

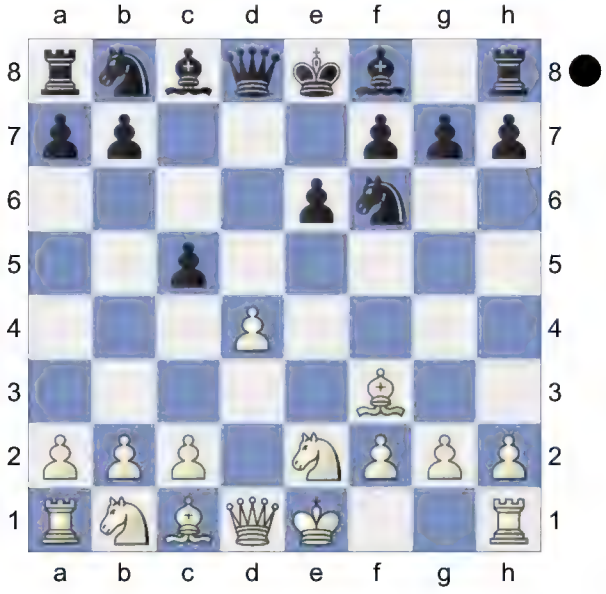


Weighted Error Value: White=0.89/ Black=0.73
0-1

8 **C01**
□ **Buildorderbot** **2692**
■ **ekfj4cxjx8vkco0acjx2** **2853**
Blitz 01.07.2024
[Kitty Kat]

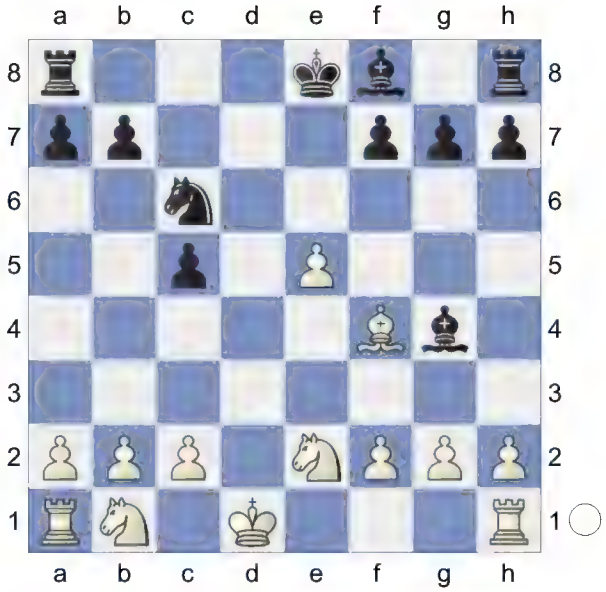
Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

6.Ne2



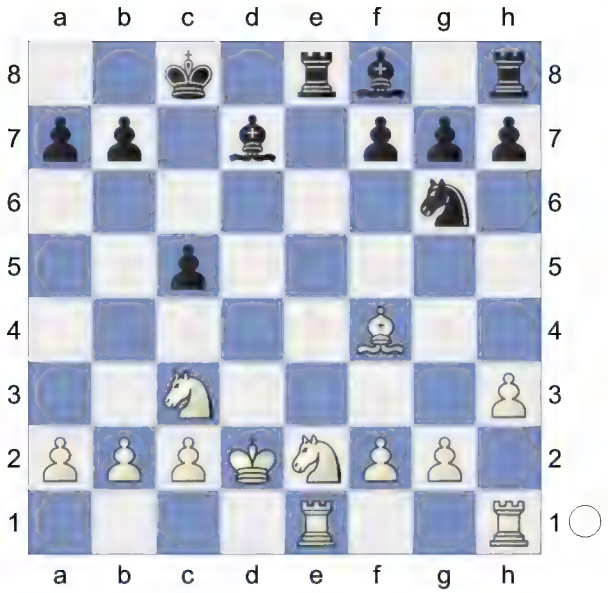
e5 0.32/20 **7.dxe5± Qxd1+ 8.Kxd1 Ng4** The position is equal. **9.Bxg4 Bxg4**

10.Bf4N
[10.f3 Bd7 11.Nbc3 Nc6 12.Bf4 0-0-0 13.Ke1 Nb4 14.Rc1 Bf5 15.a3 *(15.Ne4 Nxa2 16.Ra1 Nb4 17.Rxa7 Nxc2+ 18.Kf2 Kc7* 6) Odds and Ends-(Alternative) The Schlechter The Aggressive French 2024*)* 15...Nxc2+ 16.Kf2 c4 17.g4 Bc5+ 18.Kg3 Bd3 6) Odds and Ends-(Alternative) The Schlechter The Aggressive French 2024]
10...Nc6

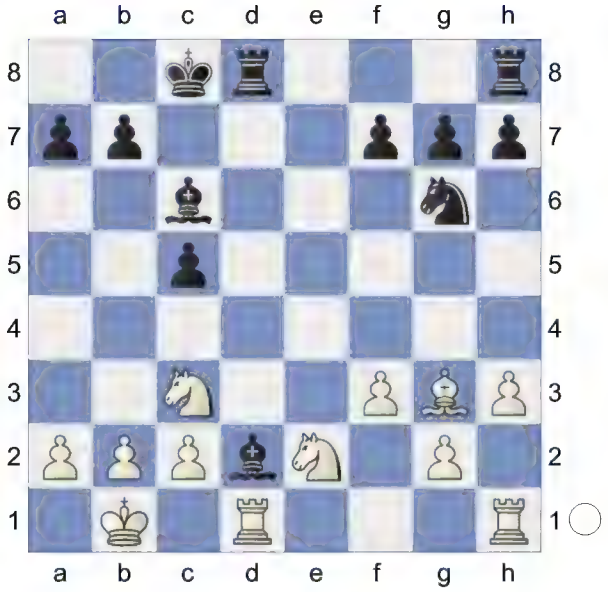


11.Nbc3 -0.22/18
[11.f3 0.15/17 was preferrable. Bd7 12.Ke1 *(12.Nd2 0-0-0 13.Nc3* 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-6...e5 *)*]
11...0-0-0+= 12.Kc1! Re8 13.h3 Bd7 14.Kd2 -0.78/19
[14.Nd5= -0.20/16]
14...Nxe5∓ 15.Rae1 Ng6 -0.48/17
[15...Bc6∓ -0.85/19 16.f3 g5 17.Bxg5 Rg8]

(Diagram)

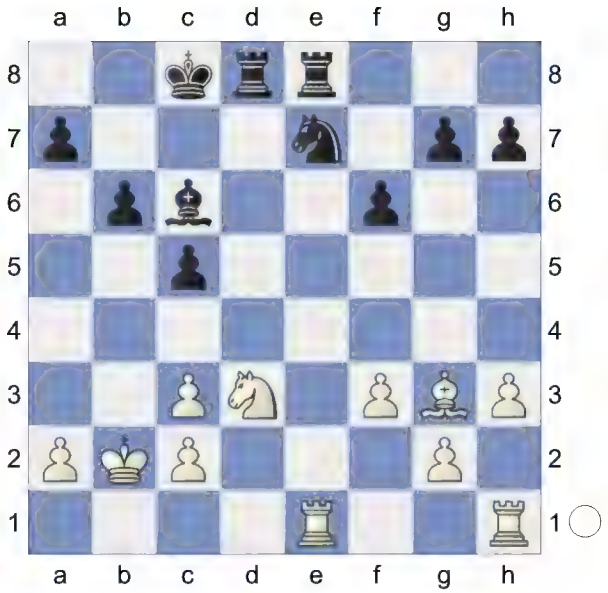


16.Bg3∓ Bc6 17.f3 Be7 18.Kc1 -0.83/19
[18.h4!∓ -0.37/21 feels stronger.]
18...Bg5+ 19.Kb1 Bd2 A strong pair of Bishops. **20.Rd1 Rd8↑**

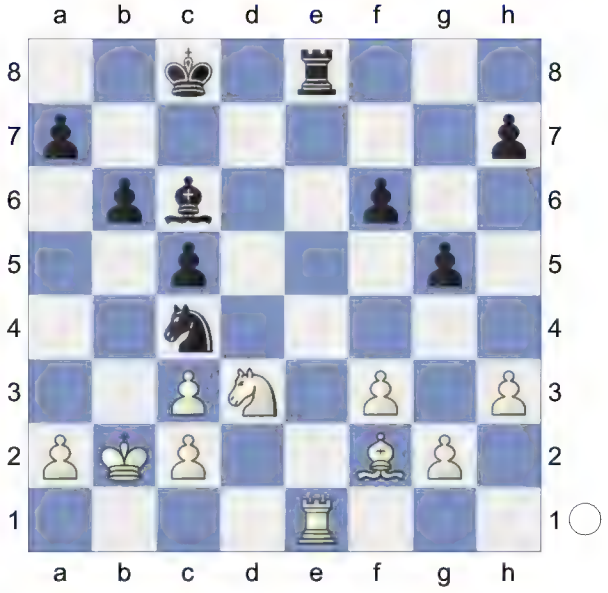


Black has some pressure. **21.Nc1 Bxc3 22.bxc3 b6 23.Nd3 Rhe8 24.Rde1** Wards off Re8-e2 **24...f6 25.Kb2 Ne7**

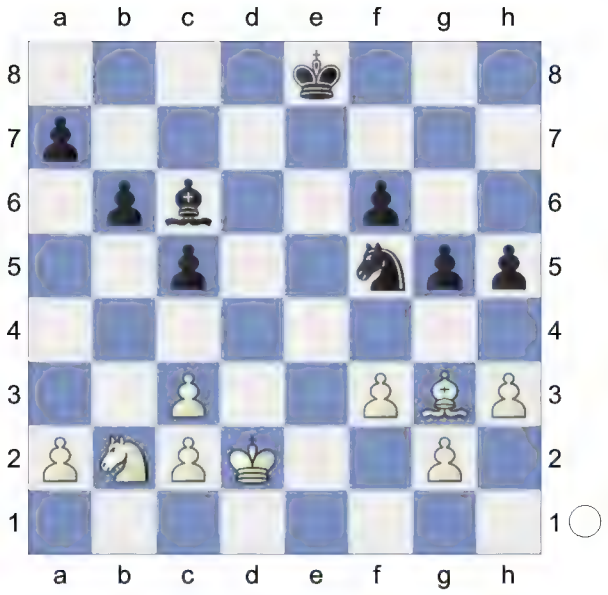
(Diagram)



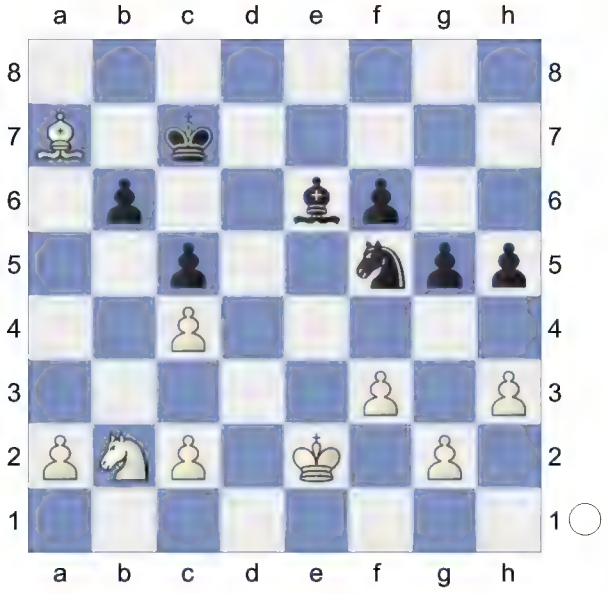
26.Nf4 -1.37/22
[26.c4∓ -0.50/18]
26...Nf5∓ 27.Rxe8 Rxe8 28.Bf2 g5 29.Nd3 Nd6 30.Re1 -1.43/23
[⌓30.Kc1 -1.00/21]
30...Nc4+



31.Kc1 Kd7 32.Rxe8 Kxe8 Endgame. KBN-KBN **33.Nb2** -1.17/22
[33.a3!= 0.11/18 Nxa3 34.h4]
33...Nd6 -0.66/20
[Black should try 33...Nxb2∓ -1.17/22 34.Kxb2 Bb5]
34.Kd2 h5 35.Bg3 Nf5

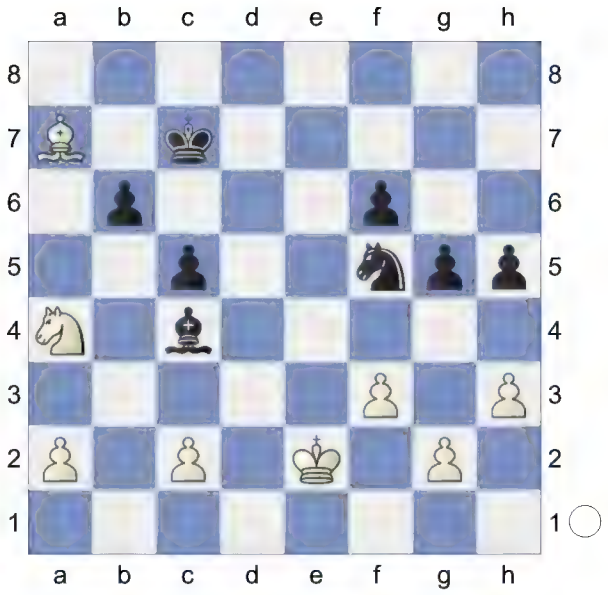


36.Bb8 Kd7 And now ...Kd7-c8 would win. **37.Ke2 Bd5 38.c4 Be6 39.Bxa7 Kc7**

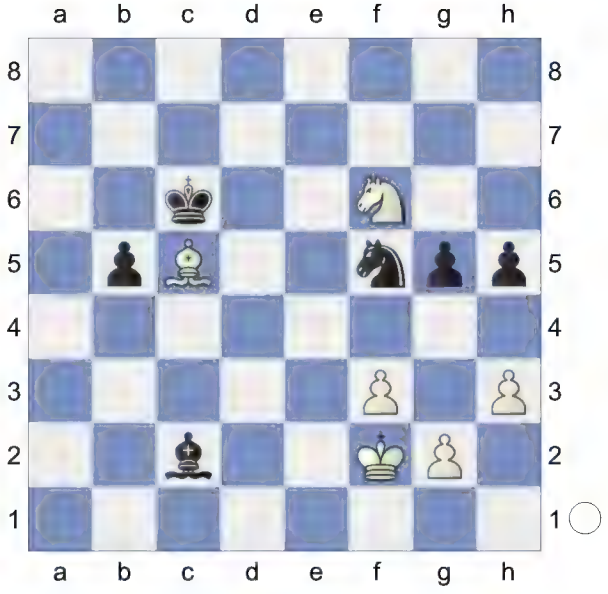


...Kc7-b7 is the strong threat. **40.Na4! Bxc4+**

(Diagram)

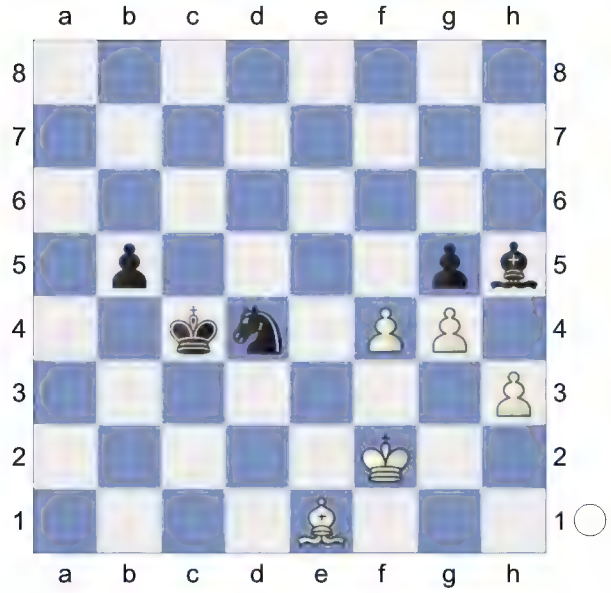


41.Kf2 b5 0.01/24
[41...Bb5∓ -0.79/22 42.Bxb6+ *(42.Nxb6? loses. Kb7∓)* 42...Kc6 43.Nxc5 Kxb6]
42.Nxc5= Threatening Nc5-e4.
42...Bxa2 43.Ne4 Bb1 44.Nxf6 Bxc2 45.Bc5 Kc6

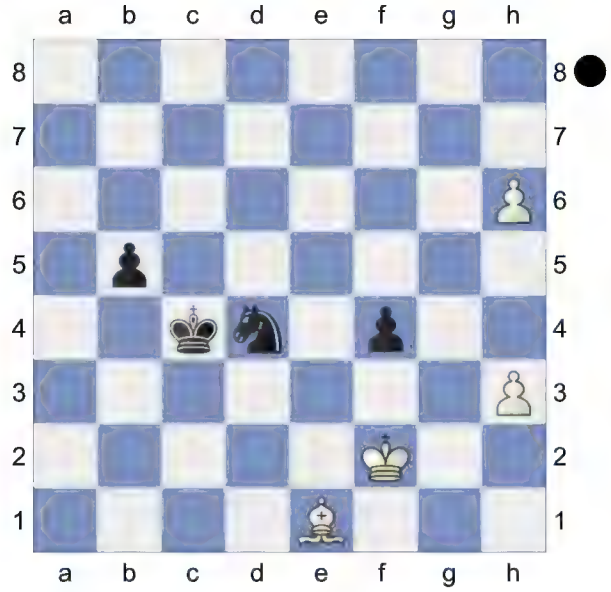


46.Bb4 Nd4 0.78/22
[46...h4= -0.01/22]
47.Nxh5± Kd5 48.f4 0.18/21
[48.Be7± 0.73/20]
48...Kc4 49.Be1 Bg6 50.g4 Bxh5?? 5.12/21

[50...b4!= 0.10/22 and Black stays safe. 51.Bxb4 *(51.fxg5? perishes. b3-+)* 51...Kxb4]



51.gxh5+- gxf4 52.h6



Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.31

1-0

9 **C01**

□ **Markov,M** **2726**

■ **Supertactic91** **2817**

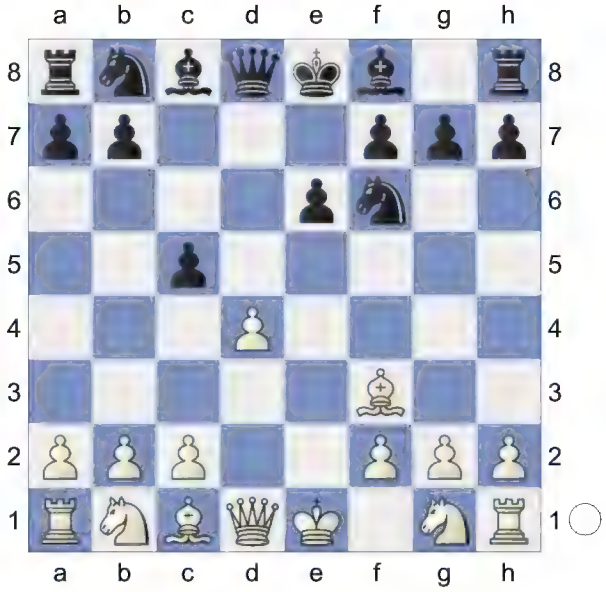
Blitz 24.06.2024

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min

C01: French: Exchange Variation

We're gonna skip a few games where Onischuk won as the players he played were far beyond him and they brought nothing new, nothing extremely exciting. This game though is a Short n' Sweet. It's the European Blitz Championship of 2016. It was the day when Onischuk chose violence. **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**



6.Ne2 Nc6 7.c3

[7.Be3 Nd5 8.Bxd5 Qxd5 9.Nbc3 Qxg2 10.Rg1 Qxh2 11.Bf4 Qh5 12.Nb5 Ke7 13.Bd6+ Kf6 14.dxc5 e5 15.Nc7 Bxd6 16.Qxd6+ Be6 17.Nd5+ 1-0 Onischuk,V (2601)-Martinovic,S (2550) European Blitz 2016 (12.24)]

7...cxd4

[7...Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 cxd4 10.cxd4 h6 11.Nbc3 a6 12.a3 Nd5

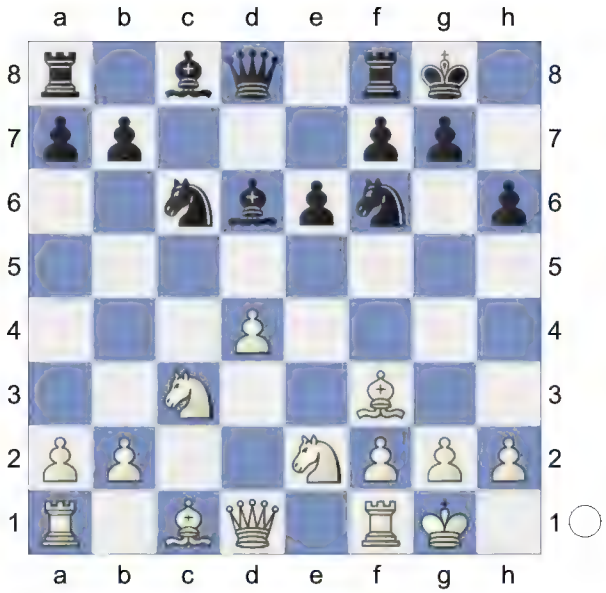
13.Nxd5 exd5 14.Rc1 Be6 15.Qd2 Na5 16.Rc3 Nc4 17.Qc2 Rc8 18.Nf4 Qa5 19.Nxe6 fxe6 20.Rc1 Rc6 21.Bxh6 gxh6 22.Qg6+ 1-0 (29) Narayani,U (1462)-Goyal,K (1522) IND-ch U09 Girls 37th 2024 (8)]

8.cxd4 Bd6N

[8...Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Nbc3 Qd7 *(10...Qa5 11.Be3 Rd8 12.Qb3 Qb4 13.Qc2 Nd5 14.Nxd5 exd5 15.a3 Qd6 16.Bf4 Qf6 17.Be3 Be6 18.Rad1 Bd6 19.Qd2 Ne7 20.Nc3 h6 21.Qe2 a6 22.g3 Rac8 23.Bg2 Bxa3 24.bxa3 Rxc3 25.Qb2* ½-½ (32) Sklavounou,I (1988)-Ponomarenko,A (2059) William Nash's tourney 1885 (6) *Rc7 26.Qb6 Rcd7 27.Rc1 Nc6 28.Rfd1 Bg4 29.f3 Be6 30.Kf2 Re8 31.Rc3 Rde7 32.Rd2* ½-½ Sarrazin,C (1988)-Martinez,J (2059) Sautron op 14th 2014 (6) *)* 11.Qa4 Rd8 12.Bf4 Nb4 13.Qb3 Nbd5 14.Be5 b6 15.Nxd5 Nxd5 16.Nf4 Nxf4 17.Bxa8 Ba6 18.Bf3 Bxf1 19.Rxf1 Ng6 20.Rd1 Bd6 21.Bxd6 Qxd6 22.g3 Ne7 23.Be4 ½-½ (42) Mendes Marto,R (2583)-Giri,A (2504) USCCC-1 Final 7476 1974 (9)]

9.0-0 0-0 10.Nbc3 h6

(Diagram)



11.h3 Ne7 12.Qb3 a6 13.Rd1 Rb8 14.Nf4 -0.55/20

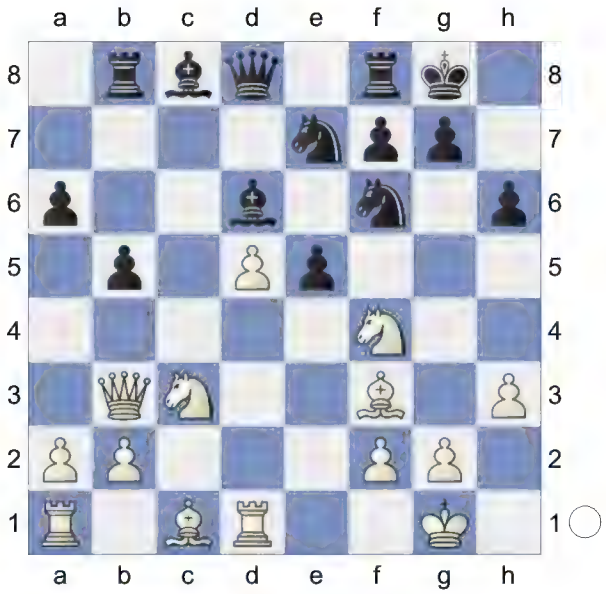
[14.Bf4= -0.09/20 should be considered.]

14...b5∓ 15.d5 -1.00/19

[15.Bd2∓ -0.55/19]

15...e5 -0.45/19

[15...Qc7∓ -1.00/19 16.Nh5 Nxh5 17.Bxh5 Bh2+ 18.Kh1 Be5]

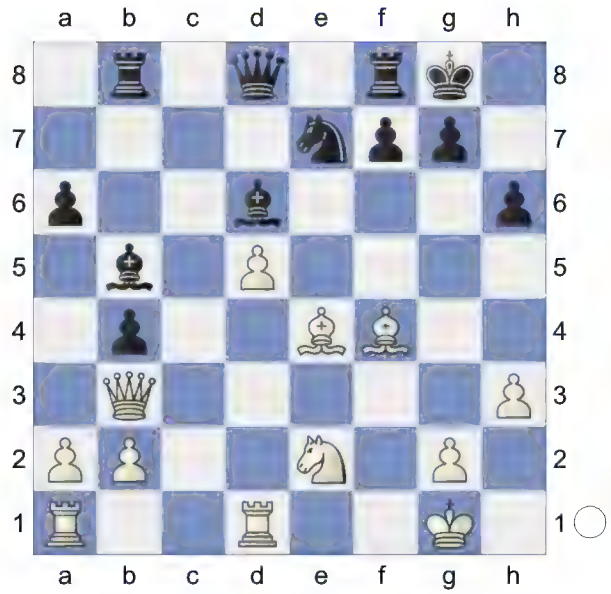


16.Nfe2 -0.82/20

[16.Nh5∓ -0.45/19 Nxh5 17.Bxh5]

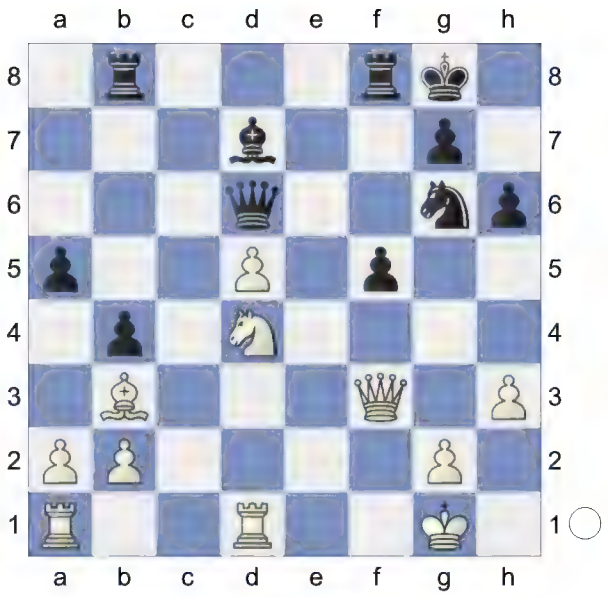
16...b4∓ 17.Ne4 Nxe4 18.Bxe4 Bd7

19.f4 exf4 -0.34/19
[19...Bb5∓ -1.01/17 20.Re1 Qc7]
20.Bxf4∓ Bb5

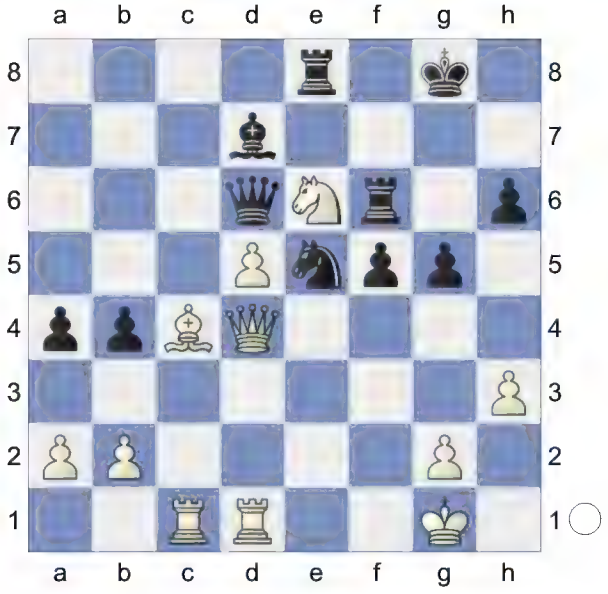


21.Bxd6
[21.Qg3 keeps more tension. Rb6 22.Bxd6 Rxd6 23.Nf4]
21...Qxd6 22.Nd4
[22.Qg3 looks sharper. Nc8 23.Qxd6 Nxd6 24.Bf3]
22...Bd7 23.Qf3
[23.Nc6 feels hotter. Rbc8 24.Rac1 Rfe8 25.Rc4]
23...f5 24.Bc2 Ng6 25.Bb3
[25.Bxf5? Nh4 *(25...Bxf5 26.Nxf5 Qe5 27.Rf1=)* 26.Be6+ Bxe6-+]
[25.Nxf5? Qc5+ 26.Qf2 Qxf2+ 27.Kxf2 Bxf5-+]
25...a5

(Diagram)



26.Ne6 -0.48/20
[26.Nc6= -0.01/18 Rbe8 27.Qf2]
26...Rf6 27.Rac1 Threatens to win with Rc1-c6! **27...a4 28.Bc4 Ne5** -0.21/21
[28...Rc8∓ -0.61/18 deserves consideration. 29.Bf1 Kh7]
29.Qf4= g5
[29...Rc8 simplifies 30.Bf1 Rxc1 31.Qxc1 Bxe6 32.dxe6 Qxe6 33.Qc5 Kh7]
30.Qd4 Re8

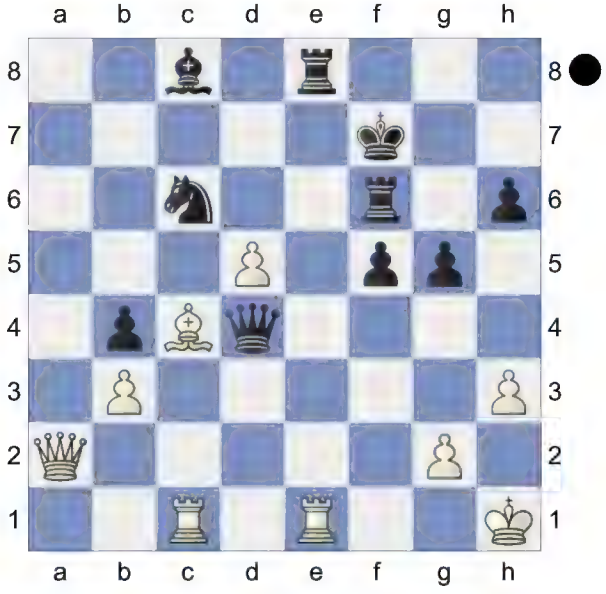


31.b3 -0.29/19
[⌓31.Be2 0.08/20]

31...axb3 1.00/20
[31...g4= -0.29/19 32.Rc2 Rg6]
32.axb3 -0.16/20
[32.Bxb3± 1.00/20 Hoping for Qd4-c5. Nf3+ 33.gxf3 Qg3+ 34.Kf1 Qxf3+ 35.Qf2 *(35.Ke1? Bxe6 36.Kd2 Qg2+ 37.Kd3 Bd7-+)* 35...Qxh3+ 36.Kg1]
32...Kf7 0.82/19
[32...g4= -0.16/20 33.Rc2 Rg6]
33.Nc5 0.01/21
[33.Be2± 0.82/19 Kg6 34.Qc5]
33...Bc8 1.28/20
[33...Nf3+!= 0.01/21 keeps the balance. 34.gxf3 Qg3+ 35.Kf1 Qxh3+ 36.Kf2 Qh2+ 37.Kf1 Qh1+ 38.Qg1 Qxf3+ 39.Qf2 Qh1+ 40.Qg1 Qf3+ 41.Qf2 Qh1+ 42.Qg1 Qf3+]
34.Re1 -0.01/20
[34.Bb5?! Nf3+ 35.gxf3 Qg3+ 36.Kf1 Qxf3+ *(36...Qxh3+ 37.Kg1=)* 37.Qf2 *(37.Kg1 Qg3+ 38.Kf1 Qxh3+ 39.Kf2 Qh2+ 40.Kf1 Ba6=)* 37...Qh1+ 38.Qg1 Qf3+ 39.Qf2 Qh1+ 40.Qg1 Qf3+ 41.Qf2=]
[34.Be2± 1.28/20]
34...Nc6? 9.00/22
[34...Nf3+= -0.01/20 35.gxf3 Qg3+ 36.Kf1 Qxh3+ 37.Kg1 Qg3+ 38.Kf1 Qh3+ 39.Kg1 Qg3+ 40.Kf1 Qh3+]
35.Qd2? -0.69/24
[35.dxc6++- 9.00/22 Kg7 36.Bd5]
35...Qxc5+∓

(Diagram)

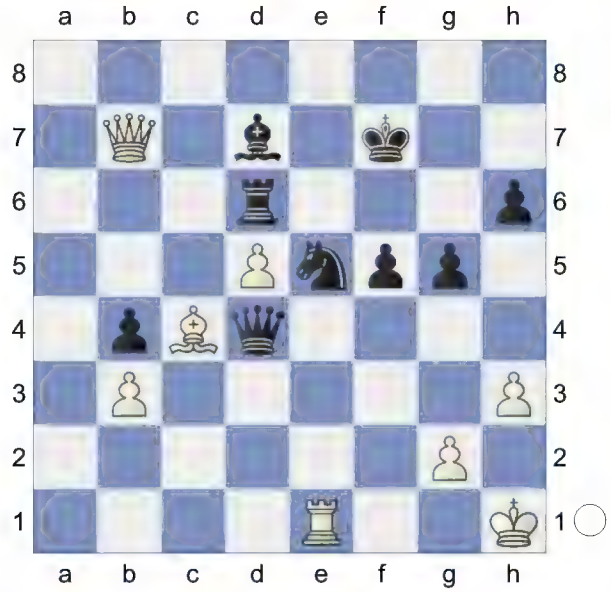
36.Kh1 Qd4? 12.83/20
[36...Rxe1+∓ -0.60/22 37.Qxe1 Na5]
37.Qa2?? -2.60/21
[37.dxc6++- 12.83/20 was the only winning move. Qxc4 38.Rxc4 *(38.bxc4 Rxc6 39.Rxe8 Kxe8+-)*]



37...Rxe1+? -0.92/20
[37...Ne5!-+ -2.60/21 and Black stays clearly on top. And now ...Bc8-d7 would win. 38.Qa5 Kg7]
38.Rxe1∓ Ne5 ...Kf7-g7 is the strong threat. **39.Qa8?** -4.41/21

[39.Qe2∓ -0.46/23]

39...Bd7-+ 40.Qb7 Rd6



41.Qxb4 Rb6 42.Qa5 Nxc4 43.bxc4 f4? 2.86/20

[43...Rb7∓ -1.36/21 stays on course. 44.Qa6 Qf2]

44.c5 -5.87/22

[44.Qa7+- 2.86/20 Kg6 45.Qxd7]

44...Rb5? 0.55/21

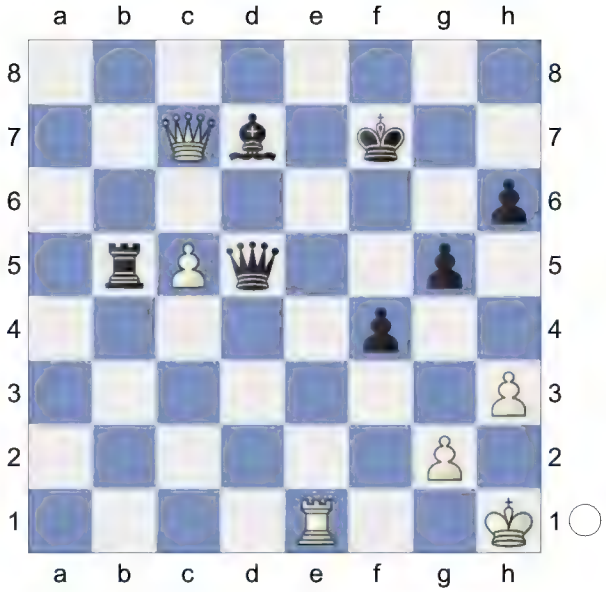
[44...Rb3-+ -5.87/22 45.Qa7 *(45.Qd8 Rxh3+ 46.gxh3 Qxd5+ 47.Kg1 Qd4+ 48.Kg2 Qd2+ 49.Kf3 Bc6+* Discovered Attack *50.Re4 Qxd8 51.Kf2 Bxe4 52.Kf1 Qd3+ 53.Ke1 Bf3 54.Kf2 Qe2+ 55.Kg1 Qg2#)* 45...Qxd5]

45.Qc7? -6.57/22

[45.Qd8± 0.55/21 Rb7 *(45...Qxd5? 46.Re7+ Kg6 47.Rxd7+-)* 46.Qe7+ Kg6 47.c6 Bxc6 48.Qe6+ Qf6 49.dxc6 *(49.Qxc6 Qxc6 50.dxc6 Ra7=)*]

45...Qxd5

[45...Rxc5 46.Qxd7+ Kg6 47.Qe8+ Kh7 48.Qf7+ *(48.Re7+ Qg7 49.Rxg7+ Kxg7 50.Qe7+ Kg6 51.Qxc5 Kf7 52.Qc7+ Kg6)* 48...Qg7 49.Qf5+ Kh8 50.Re8+]

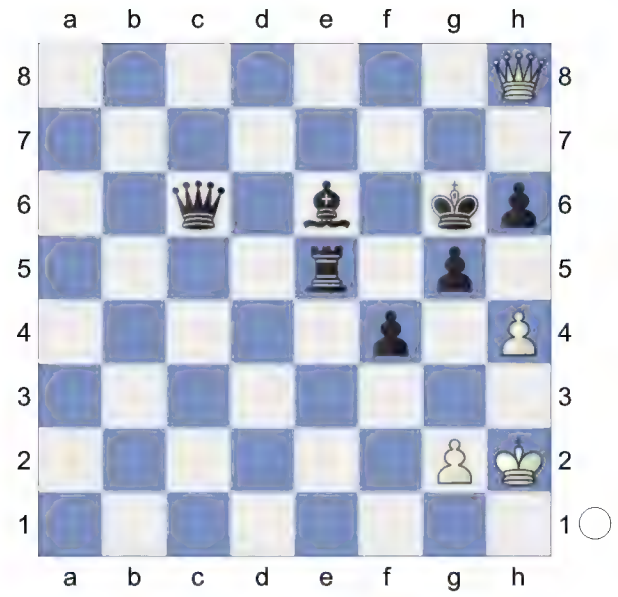


46.Re5 Qc6 -7.99/22

[⌓46...Rb1+ -#10/20 47.Kh2 Qd4 *(47...Qd3 48.Rf5+ Qxf5 49.c6* Pin *Qd3 50.Qxd7+ Qxd7 51.cxd7 Rd1 52.g3 f3 53.g4 f2 54.d8Q Rxd8 55.Kg2 Rd2 56.Kf1 Kf6 57.Kg2 Ke6 58.Kf1 Ke5 59.h4 gxh4 60.Kg2 Kf4 61.g5 h3+ 62.Kf1 Kf3 63.gxh6 Rd1#)* 48.Rf5+ Kg6 49.Rf6+ Decoy Kxf6 *(49...Kh5 50.Rxh6+* Decoy *Kxh6 51.Qd6+ Qxd6 52.cxd6 Rd1 53.h4 gxh4 54.g4 Bc6 55.g5+ Kxg5 56.Kh3 Rh1#)* 50.Qd6+ Qxd6 51.cxd6 g4 52.g3 f3 *(52...gxh3 53.gxf4 Rb3 54.f5 Kg5 55.Kh1 Rb2 56.f6 h2 57.f7 Bc6#)* 53.h4 f2 *(53...Rb2+ 54.Kh1 f2 55.Kg2 Bb5 56.h5 f1Q#)* 54.h5 Bc6 55.d7 Rh1#]

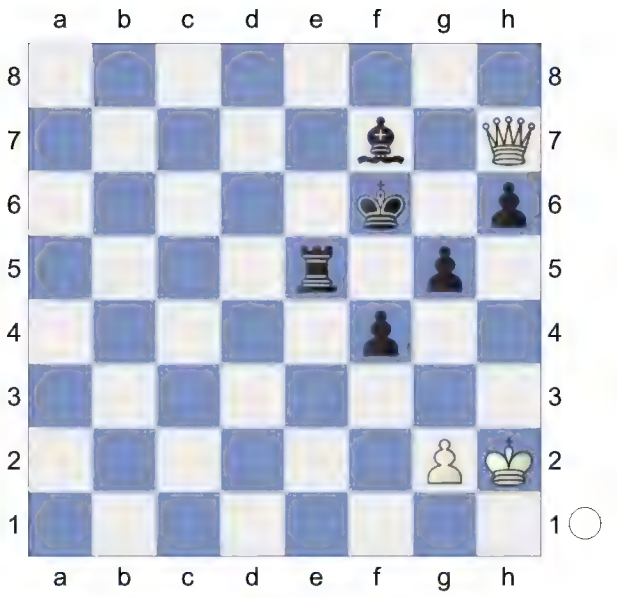
47.Qd8 Be6 48.Qh8 Kg6 49.Kh2 Rxc5 50.h4 Rxe5 -10.32/20

[⌓50...Rc2 -#15/19 51.Rxe6+ Qxe6 52.hxg5 hxg5 53.Qd4 Qe3 54.Qd6+ Kh5 55.Qd1+ Re2 56.Kh1 Qf2 57.Qxe2+ Qxe2 58.Kg1 Kg4 59.Kh1 Kg3 60.Kg1 Qxg2#]

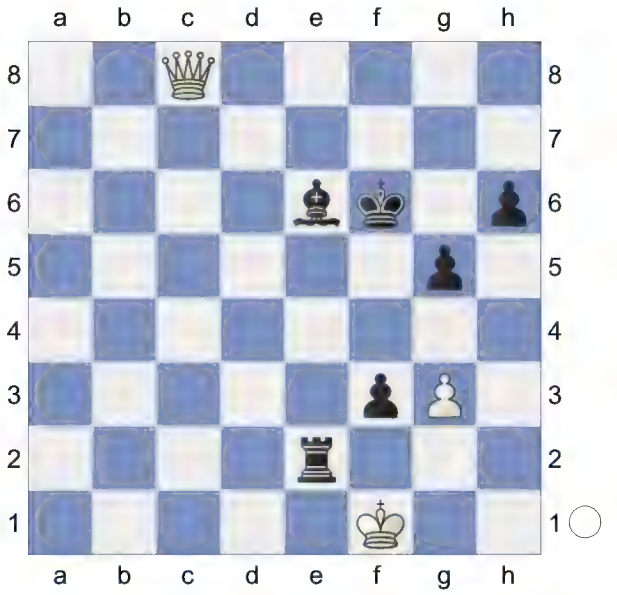


51.h5+ Kxh5 -15.91/23
[⌓51...Kf5 -#10/22 52.Qh7+ Kg4 53.Qd3 Kxh5 *(53...Kh4 54.g3+ Kg4 55.gxf4 Qf3 56.Qxf3+ Kxf3 57.fxe5 Kf2 58.Kh1 g4 59.Kh2 g3+ 60.Kh1 Bd5#)* 54.Qf1 Qc3 55.Qf3+ Qxf3 Remove Defender 56.gxf3 Kh4 *(56...Re2+ 57.Kg1 Bh3 58.Kh1 Kh4 59.Kg1 Kg3 60.Kh1 Re1#)* 57.Kg2 Bh3+ 58.Kf2 Re6 59.Kg1 Kg3 60.Kh1 Re1#]
52.Qe8+ Kg4? -1.58/28
[52...Qxe8 -#5/12 mates 53.g3 Re2+ Deflection 54.Kg1 fxg3 *(54...Re1+ 55.Kf2 Bh3 56.g4+ Bxg4 57.Kg2 Qe2#)* 55.Kf1 Bh3+ 56.Kg1 Re1#]
53.Qxc6∓ Endgame. KQ-KRB **53...Kf5** -0.01/25
[53...Re3∓ -1.51/26]
54.Qc7 Kf6 55.Qh7 Bf7

(Diagram)



56.Qh8+ Ke6 57.g3 White has compensation. **57...Re2+ 58.Kg1 f3** 0.48/21
[58...fxg3= 0.01/22 59.Qxh6+ Kf5]
59.Qc8+ Kf6 60.Kf1 0.01/23
[60.Qc3+± 0.43/20 Re5 61.Qxf3+ Kg6 62.Qd3+ Kh5 63.Qd1+ g4 *(63...Kg6 64.Qb1+ Kf6 65.Qh7±)* 64.Qd7]
60...Be6

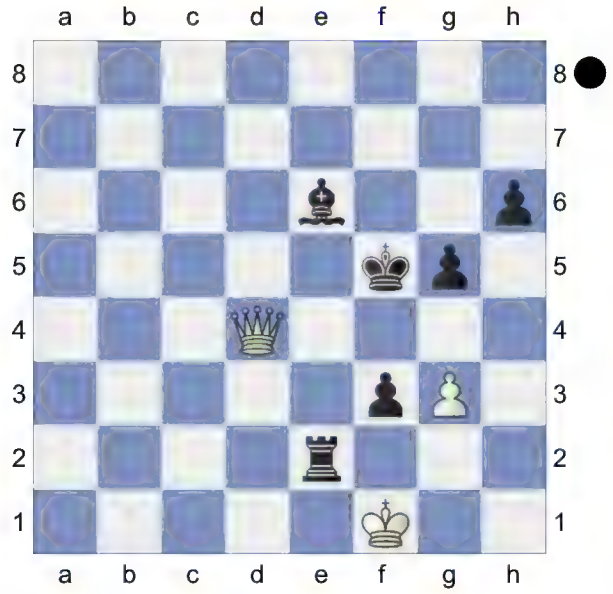


61.Qh8+ -0.01/26
[61.Qf8+± 0.36/25 Kg6 62.Qxf3]
61...Kf5=

[61...Kg6!? 62.Qe8+□ Kg7 63.Qe7+ Bf7=]

62.Qd4? -7.36/24

[62.Qxh6= -0.01/24 Kg4 63.Qg7]



62...Kg6? 0.14/25

[62...Re4!-+ -7.36/24 63.Qc5+ Kg4]

63.g4 Rc2? 6.20/26

[63...Kf7= 0.01/24]

64.Qd6? -0.41/27

[64.Qe4++- 6.20/26 Kf6 65.Qxc2 Bxg4 66.Qc3+ Kg6 67.Qc6+ Kg7 68.Qc7+ Kf6 69.Qd8+ Kf7 70.Qh8]

64...Kf6 0.01/25

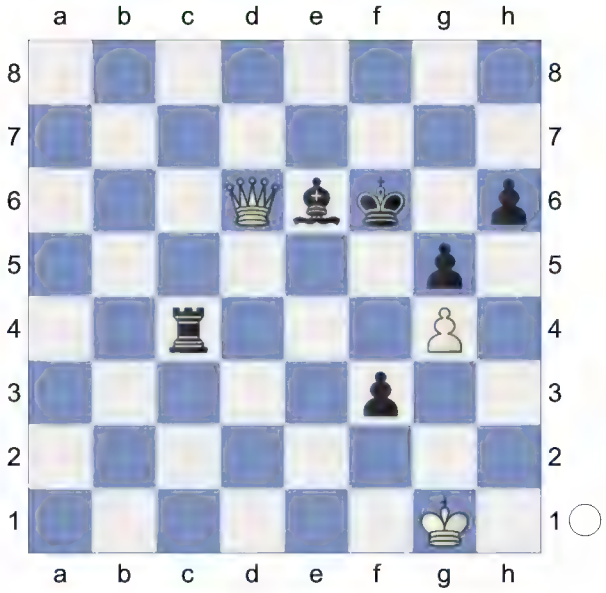
[64...Kf7!∓ -0.41/27 is more appropriate. 65.Kg1 h5 Promotion *(65...Bxg4 66.Qxh6 Rd2 67.Qh7+ Kf6 68.Qh6+ Kf5 69.Qh7+ Kf4 70.Qc7+ Ke4 71.Qe7+ Kf5 72.Qf7+ Ke4 73.Qh7+ Ke5 74.Qh8+ Kf5 75.Qf8+ Ke4 76.Qb4+ Ke3 77.Qc3+ Ke2 78.Qc4+ Ke3 79.Qc5+ Kd3 80.Qd6+ Ke2 81.Qe5+ Kd1 82.Qe3=)*]

65.Kg1 -0.57/25

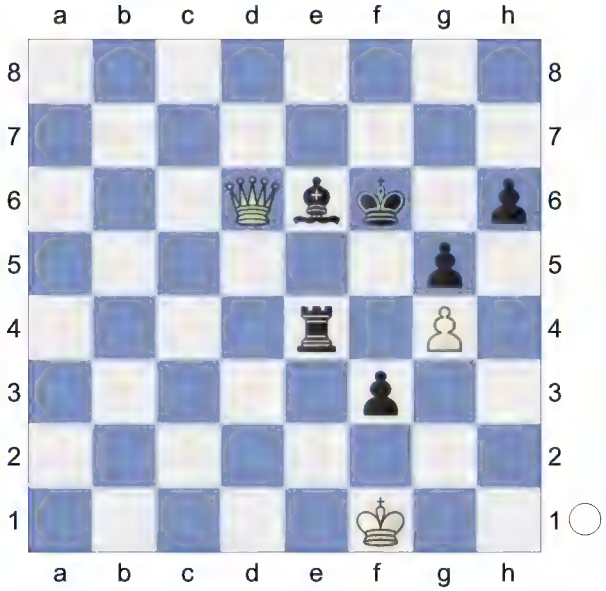
[65.Qf8+= 0.01/25 Kg6 66.Qe8+ *(66.Qxf3 Rc4∓)* 66...Kf6 67.Qh8+ Kg6 68.Qe8+ Kf6 69.Qf8+ Kg6 70.Qe8+ *(70.Qxf3 Rc4∓)*]

65...Rc4 -0.01/25

[Black should try 65...Kf7∓ -0.57/25]



66.Kf1 Re4



Quite a comeback for White.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.95/ Black=0.95. Loss on time!?

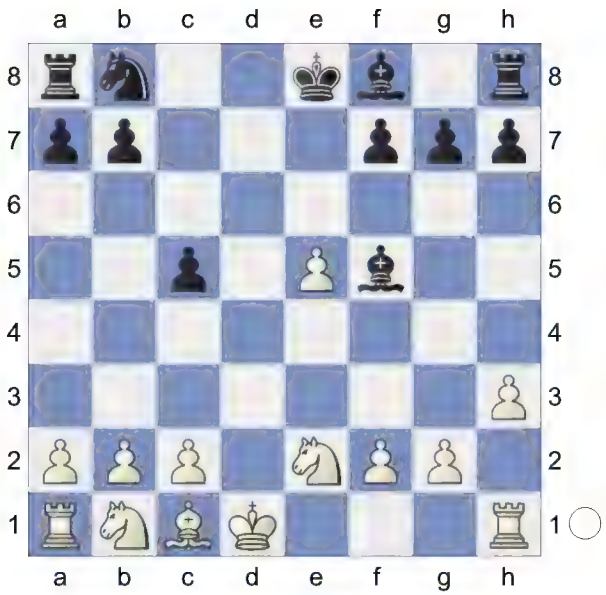
0-1

10 **C01**
□ **Zayats71** **2730**
■ **ekfj4cxjx8vkco0acjx2** **2858**
Blitz 13.06.2024
[Kitty Kat]

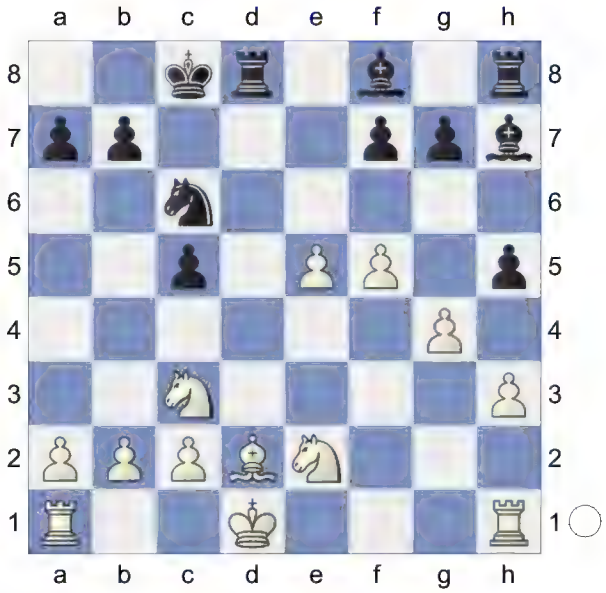
Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

6.Ne2 e5 7.dxe5 Qxd1+ 8.Kxd1 Ng4 White has an edge. **9.Bxg4 Bxg4**
10.h3N
[10.f3 Bd7 11.Nbc3 *(11.Bf4 Nc6 12.Nd2 0-0-0 13.Nc3* 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-6...e5 *)* 11...Nc6 12.Bf4 0-0-0 13.Ke1 Nb4 14.Rc1 Bf5 15.a3 *(15.Ne4 Nxa2 16.Ra1 Nb4 17.Rxa7 Nxc2+ 18.Kf2 Kc7* 6) Odds and Ends-(Alternative) The Schlechter The Aggressive French 2024*)* 15...Nxc2+ 16.Kf2 c4 17.g4 Bc5+ 18.Kg3 Bd3 6) Odds and Ends-(Alternative) The Schlechter The Aggressive French 2024]
10...Bf5

(Diagram)



11.Nbc3 Nc6 12.g4 0-0-0+ Black has compensation. **13.Bd2 Bg6 14.f4 h5** ...h5xg4 would now be deadly. **15.f5** -0.50/21
[15.Ng3= -0.13/19]
15...Bh7∓



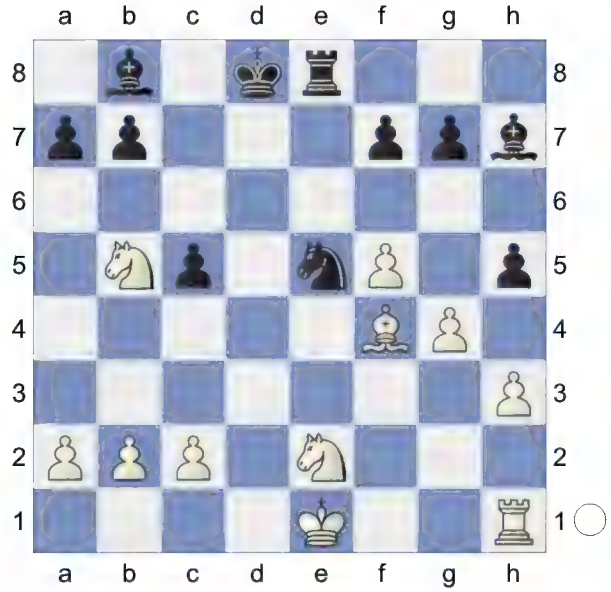
16.Ke1 Nxe5 -0.16/21
[16...hxg4∓ -0.91/21 17.hxg4 Nxe5]
17.Bf4= Bd6 18.Rd1↑ Threatens to win with Rd1xd6! White fights for an advantage. **18...Rhe8** 0.39/19
[18...Bb8= -0.09/19]
19.Nb5 -0.20/21

[19.Ne4± 0.39/19 Bb8 20.Rxd8+ *(20.Nxc5 Rxd1+ 21.Kxd1 b6±)* 20...Kxd8 21.Nxc5]

19...Bb8 20.Rxd8+

[20.gxh5? a6 *(20...Bxf5 21.Rxd8+ Rxd8 22.Nxa7+ Bxa7 23.Bxe5∓; 20...Rxd1+ 21.Kxd1 Bxf5 22.Nbc3∓)* 21.Nbc3 Bxf5 *(21...Rxd1+ 22.Kxd1 Bxf5 23.Ng3∓)* 22.Rxd8+ Rxd8-+]

20...Kxd8

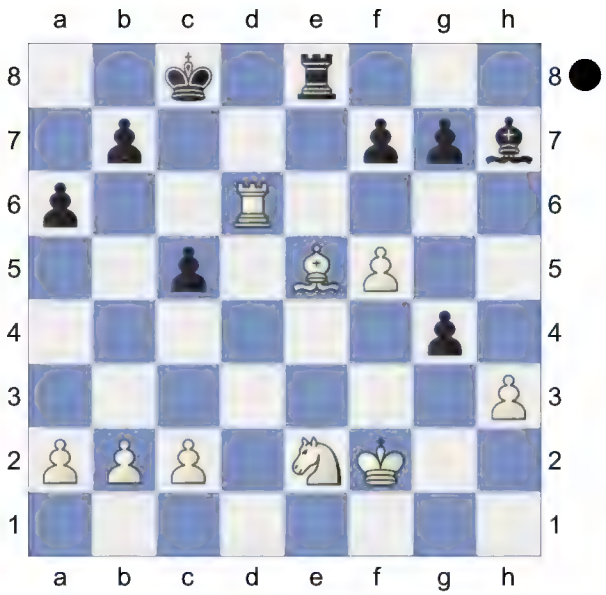


21.Kf2 a6 22.Rd1+ Kc8 0.42/21

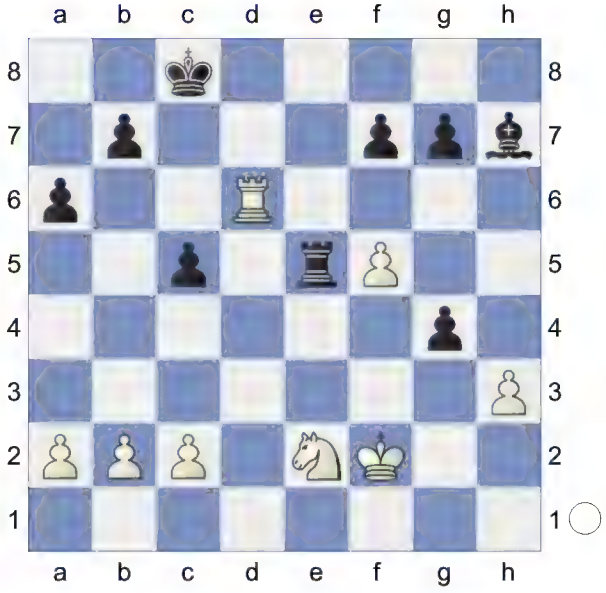
[22...Ke7= -0.01/23 23.Nbc3 hxg4 24.Nd5+ *(24.Bxe5 Bxe5 25.Nd5+ Kf8=)* 24...Kf8 25.Bxe5 Remove Defender Bxe5 26.hxg4 Rd8 *(26...Bxb2 27.Rb1=)*]

23.Nd6+± Bxd6 24.Rxd6 hxg4 25.Bxe5

(Diagram)



Remove Defender **25...Rxe5**

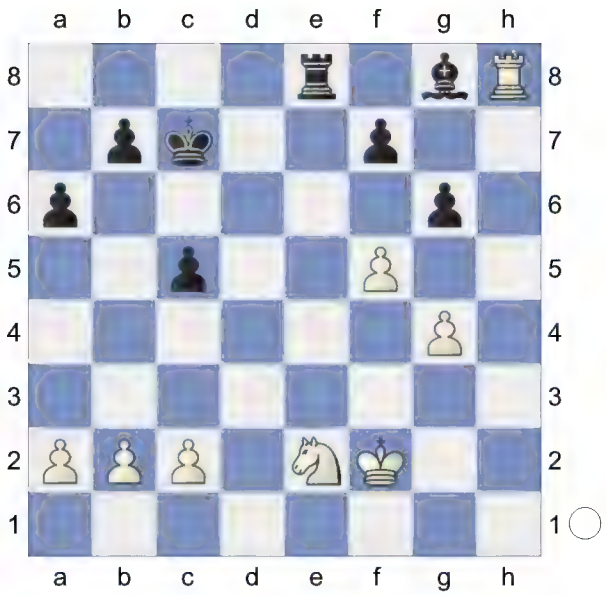


26.hxg4 Endgame. KRB-KRN **26...Kc7 27.Rd3 g6** 1.75/22

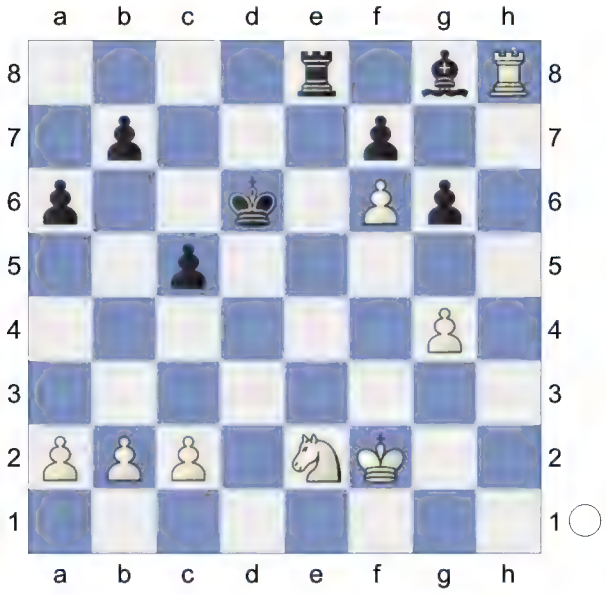
[27...f6± 0.31/20]

28.Rh3+- Bg8 29.Rh8 Re8

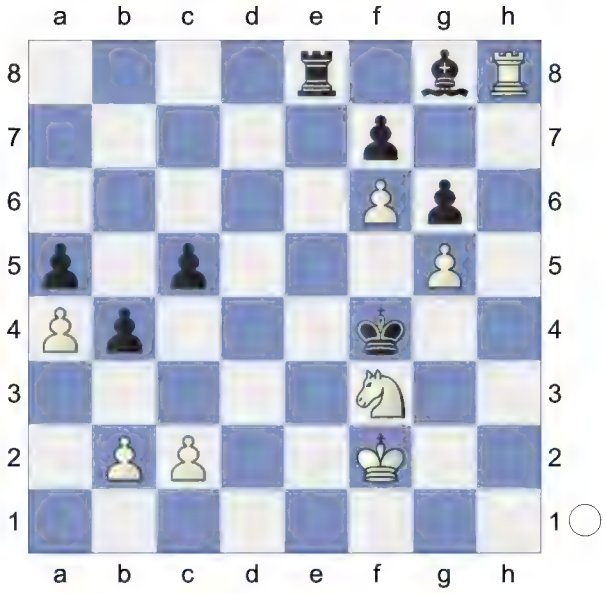
(Diagram)



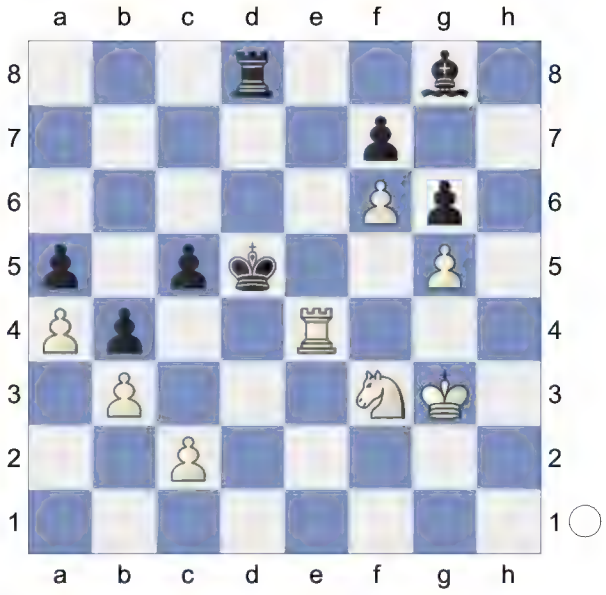
30.f6 Kd6



31.g5 Ke5 32.Ng1 1.43/27
[White should try 32.Kf3+- 1.88/22]
32...Kf4± 33.Nf3 b5 34.a3 White is more active. **34...a5?** 3.15/27
[34...Kg4± 1.37/23 was called for. 35.a4 Re4 36.axb5 *(36.Rxg8 Rf4=)* 36...axb5 *(36...Rf4 37.Rh4+ Kf5 38.Rxf4+ Kxf4 39.bxa6 Kf5 40.a7 Ke6 41.a8Q)* 37.Nh2+ *(37.Rxg8 Rf4=)* 37...Kxg5]
35.a4 b4 3.89/26
[⌓35...bxa4 2.48/24 36.Rh4+ Skewer Kf5 37.Rxa4 Ra8]

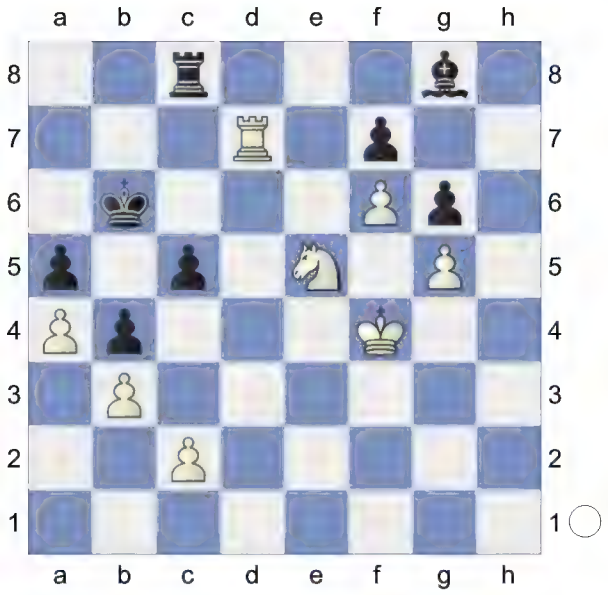


36.b3+- Rc8? 6.31/27
[36...Ke4 3.59/24 37.Rh4+ Kd5]
37.Rh4+ Kf5 38.Kg3 Rd8 39.Rf4+ Ke6 40.Re4+ Kd5

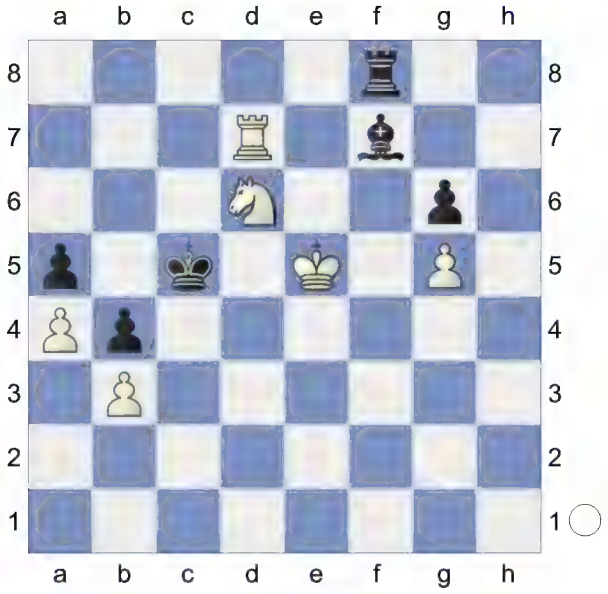


41.Re5+ Kc6 42.Kf4 Kb6 43.Re7 Rc8 44.Ne5 Rd8 45.Rd7 Rc8

(Diagram)

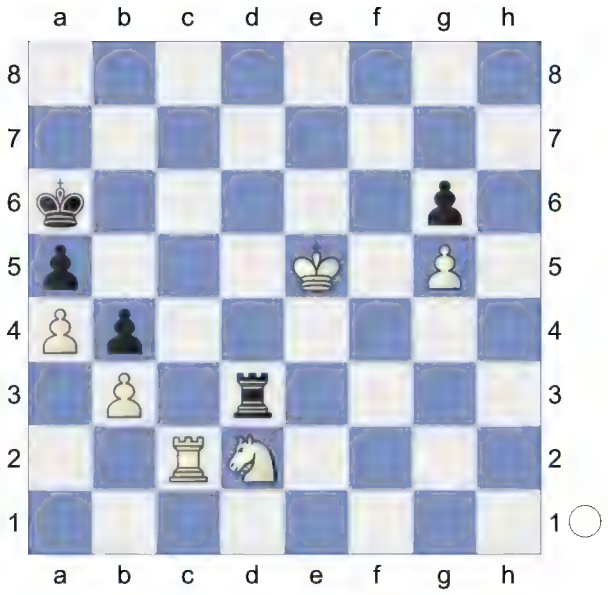


46.Nxf7 c4 47.Ke5 2.87/22
[⌓47.Nd6 6.12/21 Rc6 48.f7 *(48.Rb7+ Ka6+-)* 48...Bxf7 49.Nxf7 cxb3 50.cxb3]
47...cxb3 48.cxb3 Kc5 11.84/24
[48...Rc1 1.61/21]
49.Nd6 Rf8 50.f7 Bxf7

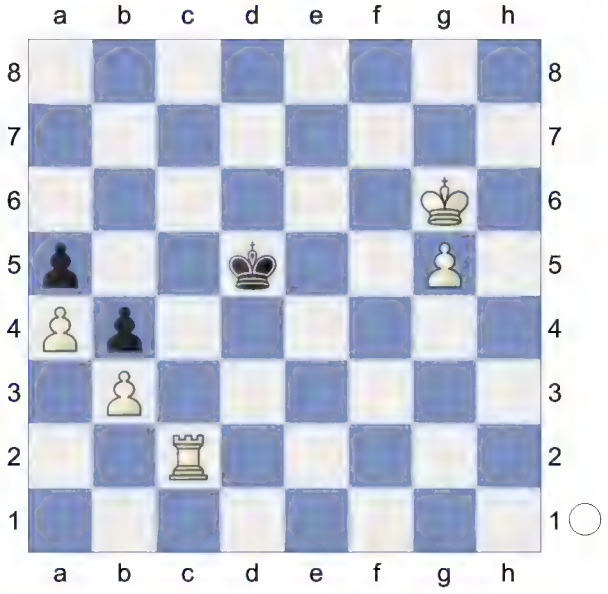


51.Rxf7 KRN-KR **51...Rh8 52.Rc7+ Kb6 53.Rc2 Rh3 54.Nc4+ Ka6 55.Nd2 Rd3**

(Diagram)

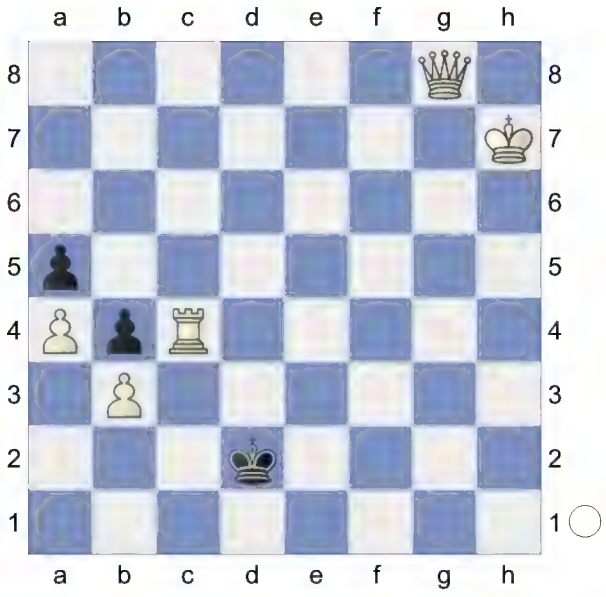


56.Kf6 Rd6+ 57.Kg7 Kb6 58.Nc4+ White mates. **58...Kc5 59.Nxd6+ Kxd6 60.Kxg6** KR-KPP **60...Kd5**

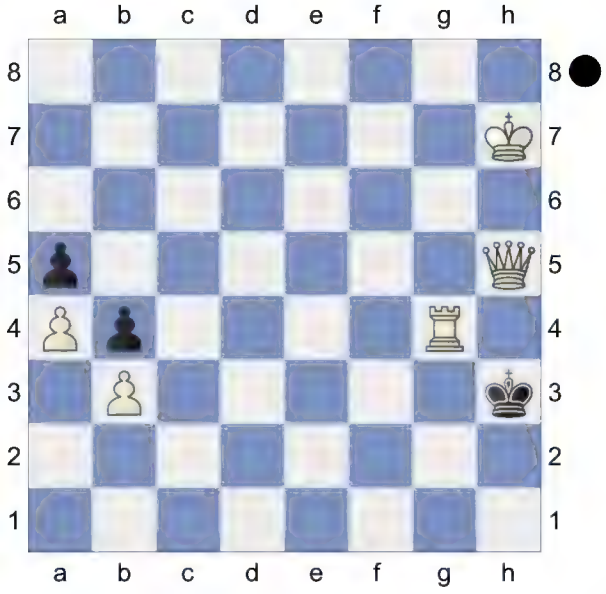


61.Kh7 Kd4 62.Rc4+ Kd3 63.g6 Kd2 64.g7 Kd3 65.g8Q Kd2

(Diagram)



66.Qd5+ Ke1 67.Re4+ Kf2 68.Qf5+ Kg2 69.Rg4+ Kh3 70.Qh5#



Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.43

1-0

11 **C01**

Arasanx	**2952**
Nikitosikbot V2	**2958**
Rapid	09.03.2024

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 8min

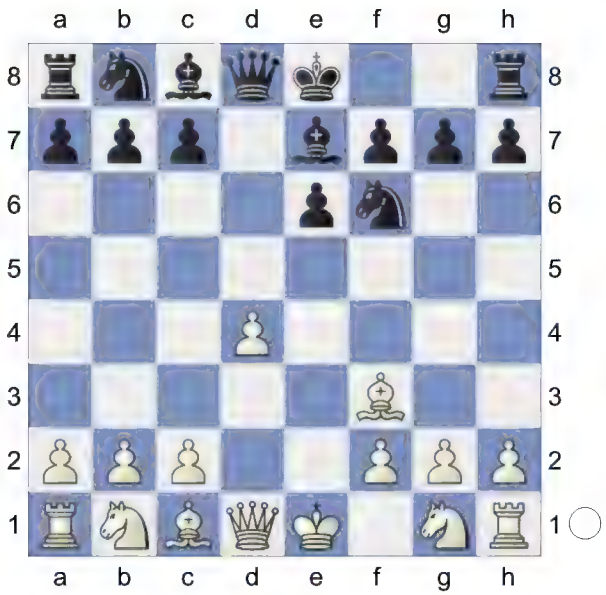
C01: French: Exchange Variation

Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent. **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Be7**

[4...Nf6 5.Bf3 c5 6.Ne2 Be7 7.Nbc3 *(7.Be3 0-0 8.dxc5 Qc7 9.0-0 Rd8 10.Qc1 Bxc5 11.Nbc3 Na6 12.a3 Bd7 13.Ng3 Bd6 14.Rd1 Be5 15.Bd4 Nc5 16.Qe3 Bxd4 17.Rxd4 Rac8 18.Rad1 b6 19.h3 Be8 20.Qd2 Rxd4 21.Qxd4 h6* ½-½ (83) Nguyen,M (2052)-Esipenko,A (2695) Titled Tuesday intern op 04th Feb Early blitz 2025 (3)*)* 7...0-0 8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 f5 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4)]

5.Bf3 Nf6

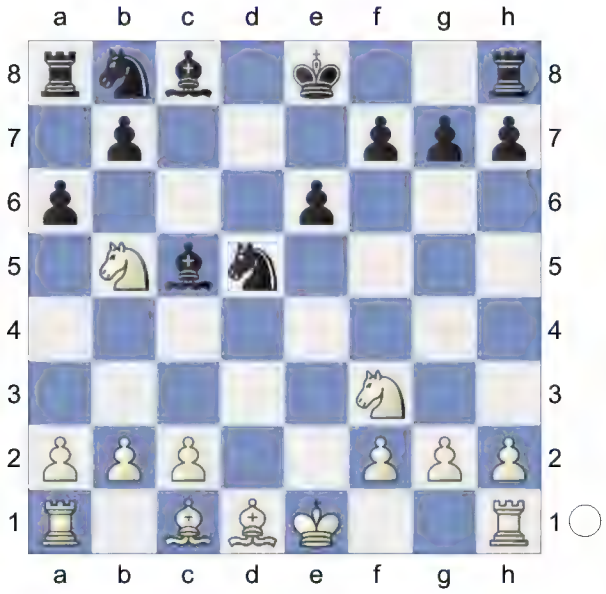
(Diagram)



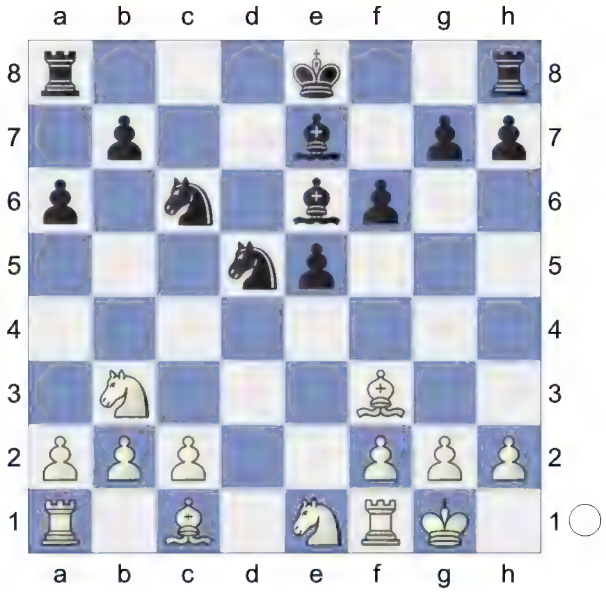
6.Nc3N

[6.Ne2 0-0 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.c4 c5 9.Nbc3 Nb6 10.b3 cxd4 11.Qxd4 Qxd4 12.Nxd4 e5 13.Ndb5 Nbd7 14.Rd1 Bb4 15.Bb2 Nc5 16.Nc7 Rb8 17.N3d5 Nxd5 18.Nxd5 e4 19.Nxb4 exf3 20.Be5 Ra8 1-0 (21) Hector,J (2300)-Smith,R (2270) Wch U20 Belfort 1983 (4) 21.Bd6]

6...c5 7.dxc5 Qxd1+ 8.Bxd1 The position is equal. **8...Bxc5 9.Nb5 Nd5** Wards off Nb5-c7+ **10.Nf3 a6**



11.Nbd4 f6 12.0-0 e5 13.Nb3 Be7 14.Ne1 Nc6 15.Bf3 Be6

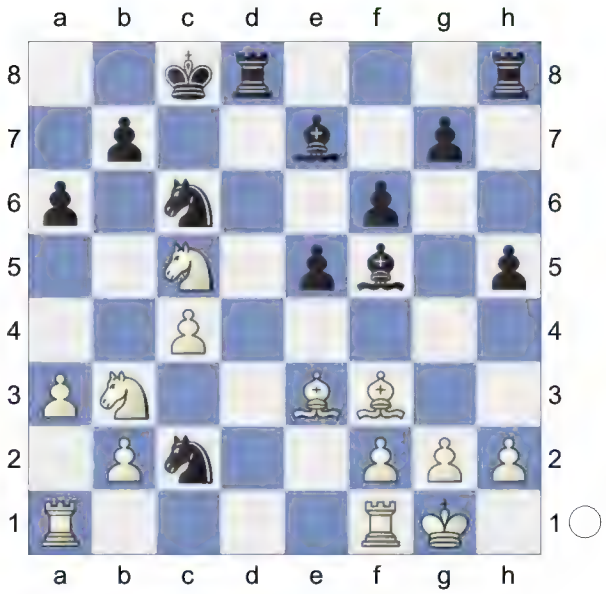


16.Nd3 0-0-0 17.Ndc5 Bf5 18.c4 Ndb4 19.Be3 h5 20.a3

[20.h3 simplifies Rd6 21.Rfd1 Rxd1+ 22.Rxd1 Bc2 23.Rc1]

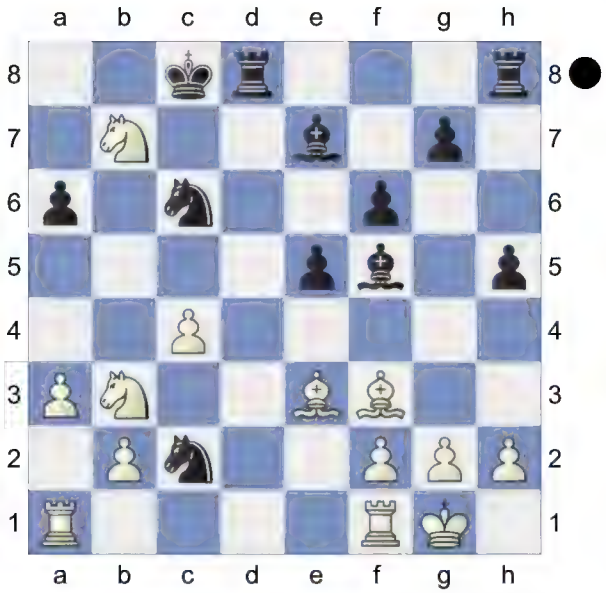
20...Nc2

[20...Bxc5 simplifies 21.Nxc5 Nd3 22.Bxc6 Nxc5]

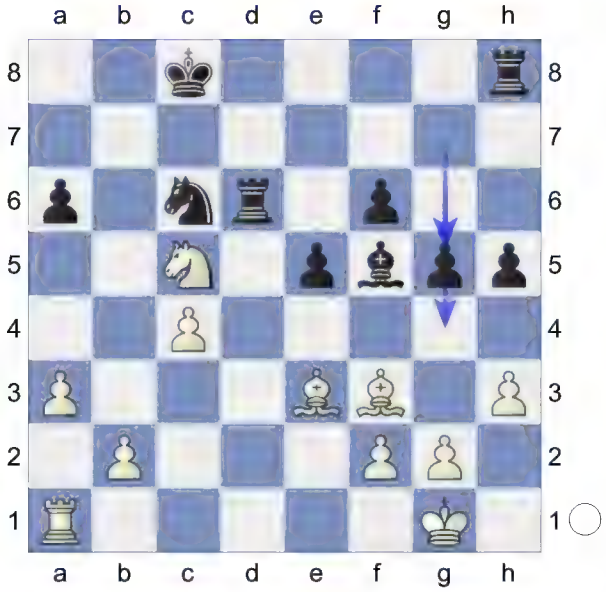


21.Nxb7

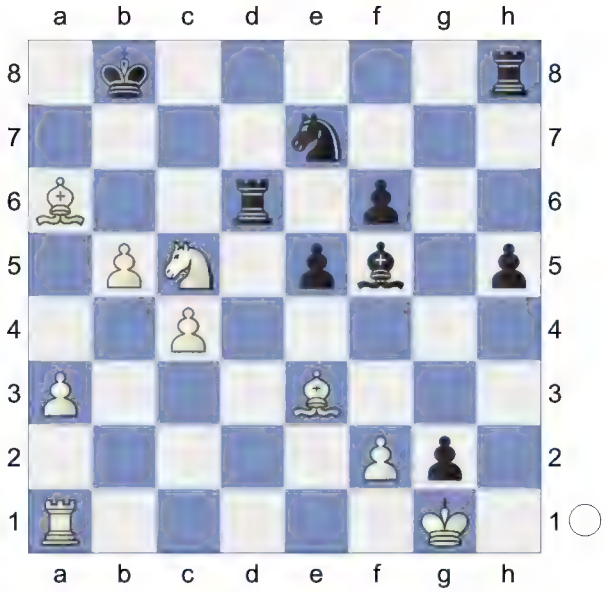
(Diagram)



Decoy **21...Rd3!** **22.N7c5** **Nxa1** **23.Rxa1** **Bxc5** **24.Nxc5** **Rd6** **25.h3** White has compensation. **25...g5**



26.Be4 -0.01/20
[26.Nxa6± 0.40/20 is more appropriate. Nd4 27.Bxd4 Rxd4 28.Bd5]
26...Ne7= 27.b4 0.01/19
[27.Bb7+± 0.81/21 Kc7 28.Bxa6]
27...g4 **28.Bb7+** This pair of bishops is nice. **28...Kb8** 0.51/19
[28...Kc7= 0.11/22 is superior.]
29.Bxa6 -0.12/20
[29.hxg4± 0.51/19 hxg4 30.Bxa6]
29...gxh3 30.b5 hxg2



With the idea ...Rh8-g8. **31.a4 Ng6**
[31...Bh3 is more complex. 32.Nb7 Rd3 33.Nc5 Rd6]
32.Kxg2 Strongly threatening a4-a5.
32...Nh4+ 33.Kh2
[33.Kg3 Rg8+ 34.Kxh4 Rg4+ 35.Kh3 *(35.Kxh5 Rd8)* 35...Rd8-+ *(35...Rxc4+ 36.Kh2=; 35...Rg1+? 36.Kh2-+; 35...Rxc4+? 36.Kh2+-; 35...Rg1+? 36.Kh4-+)*]
33...Nf3+ 34.Kg3 -0.91/22
[34.Kh1= 0.01/20]
34...Bg4 -0.47/19 Black is more active.
[34...Nd2∓ -0.91/22 (-> ...Rh8-g8+) 35.Bxd2 Rxd2]
35.Bb7∓ Rg8!

(Diagram)

Some like it hot **36.Bd5?** -8.05/26
[36.Bxf3? too greedy. h4+ 37.Kh2 Bxf3 38.Na6+ Kc8-+]
[36.Kg2= -0.26/19 Nd4 37.Kh1]
36...h4+? -2.94/5
[36...Rxd5 -8.05/26 37.Na6+ Kb7 38.cxd5 f5 *(38...h4+ 39.Kg2-+)*]
37.Kg2-+ h3+ 38.Kg3

Rxd5!

(Diagram)

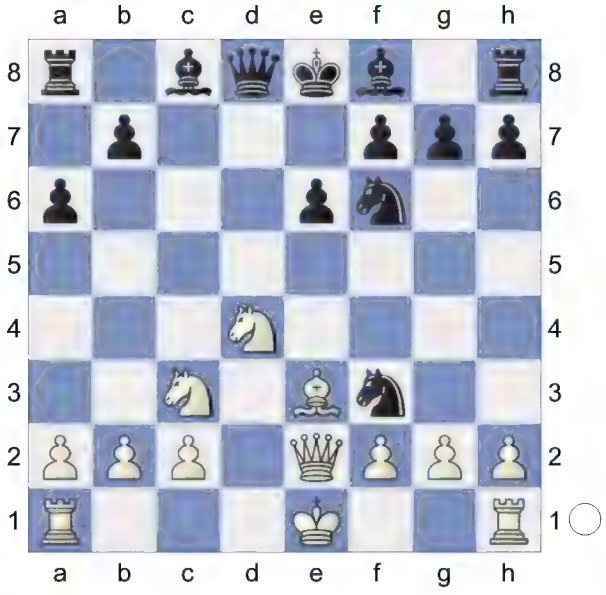
Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/ Black=0.30
0-1

12 **C01**
□ **Protagonist98** **2769**
■ **Caminero85** **2730**
Blitz 03.06.2024
[Kitty Kat]

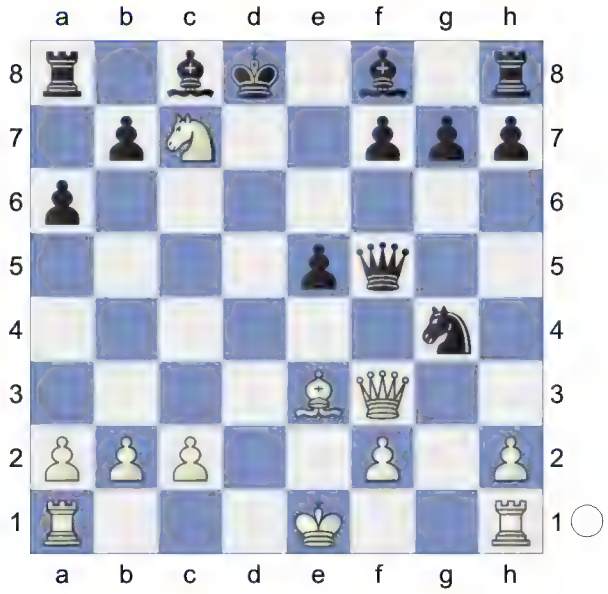
Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

(Diagram)

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5
The position is equal. **9.Nc3 a6**
[9...Bb4 is interesting. 10.Ndb5 Qa5 11.a3 Qxb5]
10.Qe2 Nxf3+



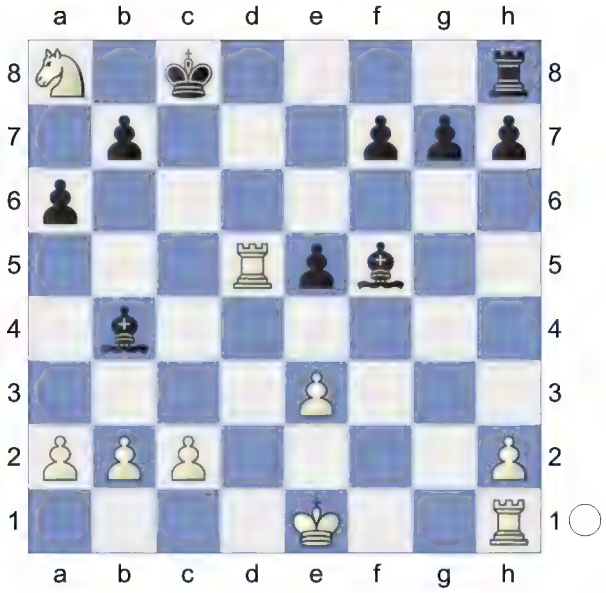
11.Qxf3 e5 12.Nf5N
[12.Nb3 Bb4 13.Bc5 Bxc5 14.Nxc5 1...e6 - French 3.Bd3-1...e6 - French 3. Bd3 #479 0-0 15.0-0 Qc7 16.Nd3 Be6 17.Rfe1 Nd7 7. 3...dxe4 Part III Main Lin-11.Qxf3 - Simpler]
[12.0-0-0 Bg4 13.Qxb7 exd4 14.Bxd4 Qc8 15.Rhe1+ Be6 15. Sidelines-(71) Nitin vs. Mirzoev]
12...Qd7 13.g4 -0.78/21
[13.Ng3= -0.21/19]
13...Nxg4∓ Remove Defender **14.Nd5** -1.83/21 **Qxf5-+ 15.Nc7+ Kd8!**



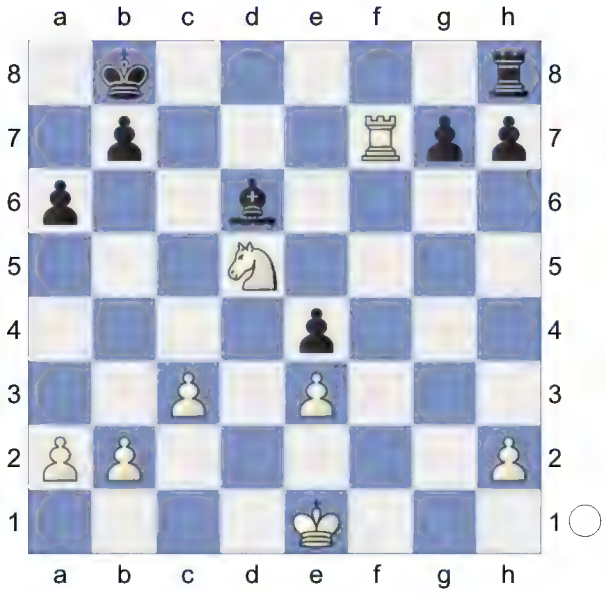
16.Qxf5 Bxf5 17.Nxa8 Nxe3
[17...Bxc2 18.Rc1 Nxe3 19.fxe3 Bb4+ 20.Kf2±]
18.fxe3 Bc5!
[18...Bxc2 19.Rc1 Bd3 20.Rc7±]
19.Rd1+ Kc8 20.Rd5

Bb4+ -0.06/20
[20...Bxe3? is the wrong capture.

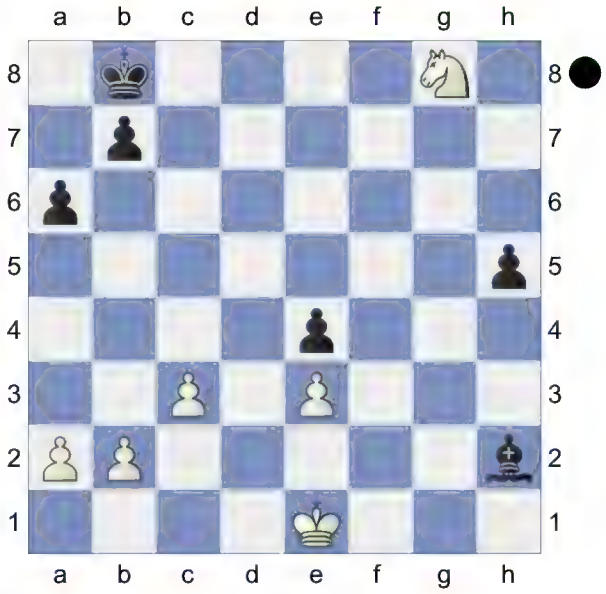
21.Rxe5 Kb8 22.Rxf5+-]
[20...Ba7!-+ -1.77/22 21.Rf1 Be6
(21...Bxc2 22.Rxf7 Bg6 23.Rxg7±)]



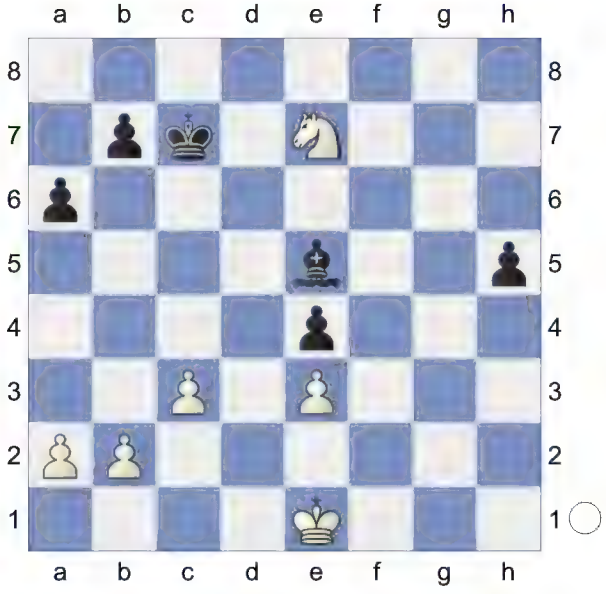
This pair of bishops is nice. **21.c3=** Strongly threatening Rd5xe5! **21...Be4** 1.03/24
[21...Be7= 0.26/20 keeps the balance.]
22.Rf1 Bxd5 23.Nb6+ Kb8 And now ... B b 4 x c 3 + ! w o u l d w i n . **24.Nxd5±** Endgame. KRB-KRN **24...Bd6 25.Rxf7 e4**



26.Rxg7 Bxh2 27.Nf6 0.10/21
[27.Kf2± 0.52/21]
27...h5= 28.Rg8+ -0.89/22
[28.Kf2= 0.28/21 remains equal.]
28...Rxg8∓ 29.Nxg8



KB-KN **29...Be5** Wards off Ng8-f6
30.Ne7 Kc7

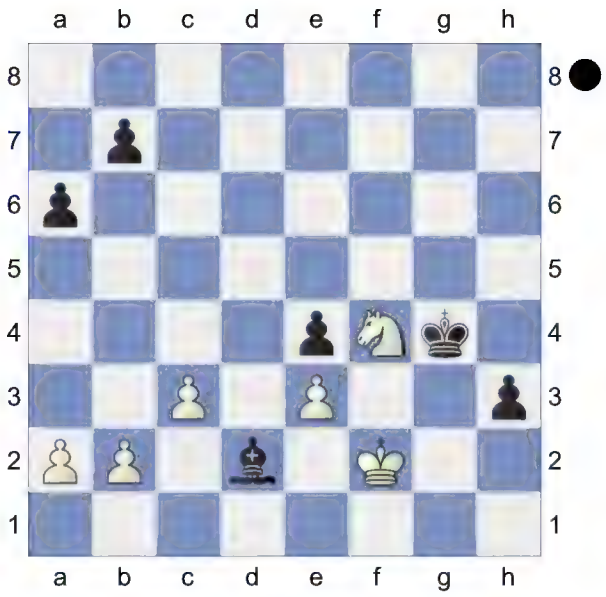


31.Ng6 Bg3+ 32.Kf1 Kd6 -0.42/24
[32...Kc6∓ -0.87/25 33.Kg2 Bd6]
33.Kg2!∓ Be1 34.Nf4 h4 35.Ne2 -1.62/25
[35.Kh3!∓ -0.70/24]
35...Ke5 -0.84/22

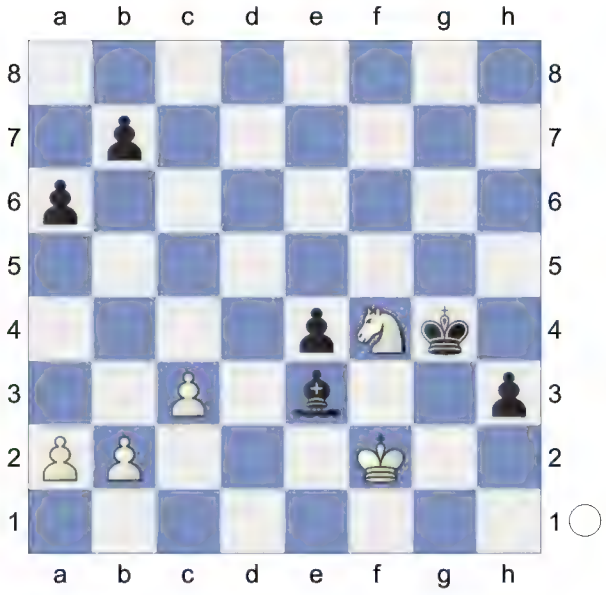
[Black should play 35...b5-+ -1.62/25 36.Kh3 Bf2]

36.Kf1 -1.46/23
[⌓36.c4 -0.84/22]
36...Bd2∓ 37.Kf2 Kf5 -0.78/25
[⌓37...Kd5 -1.60/26 Hoping for ...Kd5-c4. 38.Nf4+ Kc4]
38.Nd4+ Kg4? 0.95/22
[38...Kg6!∓ -0.67/24 keeps the upper hand. 39.Ne6 *(39.Nb3? Bxe3+ 40.Kg2 Kf5-+)* 39...Kf6]
39.Ne6? -4.12/25
[39.Nb3± 0.95/22 is necessary to keep the advantage. Be1+ 40.Kxe1]
39...h3-+ 40.Nf4? -16.38/25
[40.Nc5 -3.19/20 Be1+ *(40...h2? 41.Kg2-+)* 41.Kg1 *(41.Kxe1? h2-+)*]

(Diagram)

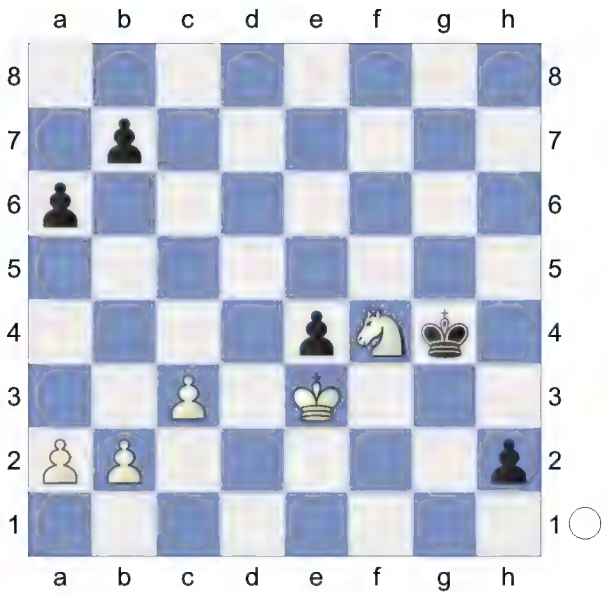


40...Bxe3+!



Promotion **41.Kxe3 h2**

(Diagram)

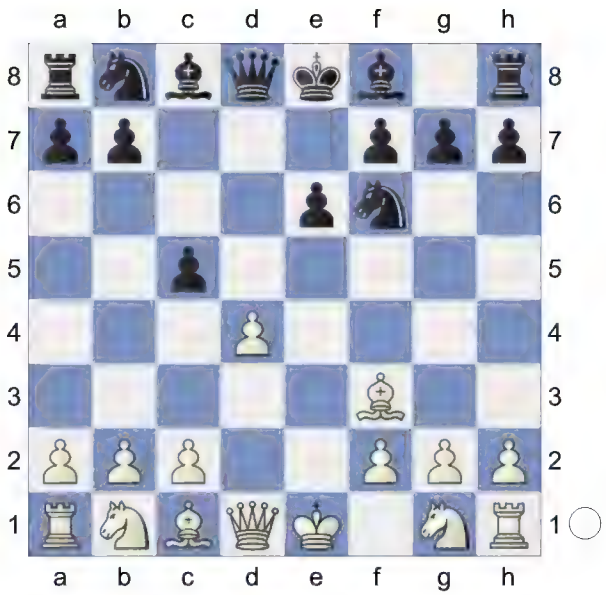


Weighted Error Value: White=0.55/ Black=0.21 (precise)
0-1

13 **C01**
□ **Roma Matinyan271988** **2701**
■ **Starbox2010** **2695**
Blitz 01.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

(Diagram)

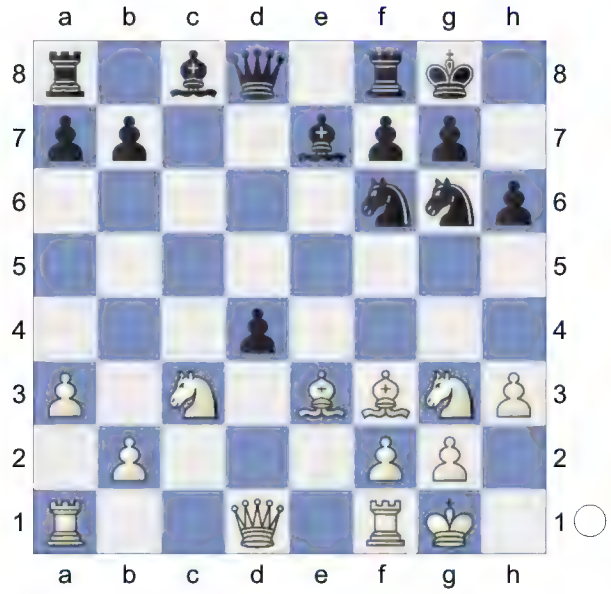


6.c3 Nc6 7.Ne2 cxd4
[7...Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 cxd4 10.cxd4 h6 11.Nbc3 a6 12.a3 Nd5 13.Nxd5 exd5 14.Rc1 Be6 15.Qd2 Na5 16.Rc3 Nc4 17.Qc2 Rc8 18.Nf4 Qa5 19.Nxe6 fxe6 20.Rc1 Rc6 21.Bxh6 gxh6 22.Qg6+ 1-0 (29) Narayani,U (1462)-Goyal,K (1522) IND-ch U09 Girls 37th 2024 (8)]
8.cxd4 Bb4+N
[8...Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Nbc3 Qa5 *(10...Qd7 11.Qa4 Rd8 12.Bf4 Nb4 13.Qb3 Nbd5 14.Be5 b6 15.Nxd5 Nxd5 16.Nf4 Nxf4 17.Bxa8 Ba6 18.Bf3 Bxf1 19.Rxf1 Ng6 20.Rd1 Bd6 21.Bxd6 Qxd6 22.g3 Ne7 23.Be4 g6 24.f4 h5 25.Rd3* ½-½ (42) Mamedov,N (2583)-Martinovic,S (2504) EU-ch 12th Aix les Bains 2011 (9)) 11.Be3 Rd8 12.Qb3 Qb4 13.Qc2 Nd5 14.Nxd5 exd5 15.a3 Qd6 16.Bf4 Qf6 17.Be3 Be6 18.Rad1 Bd6 19.Qd2 Ne7 20.Nc3 h6 21.Qe2 a6 22.g3 Rac8 23.Bg2 ½-½ (32) Sklavounou,I (1988)-Ponomarenko,A (2059) William Nash's tourney 1885 (6) Bxa3

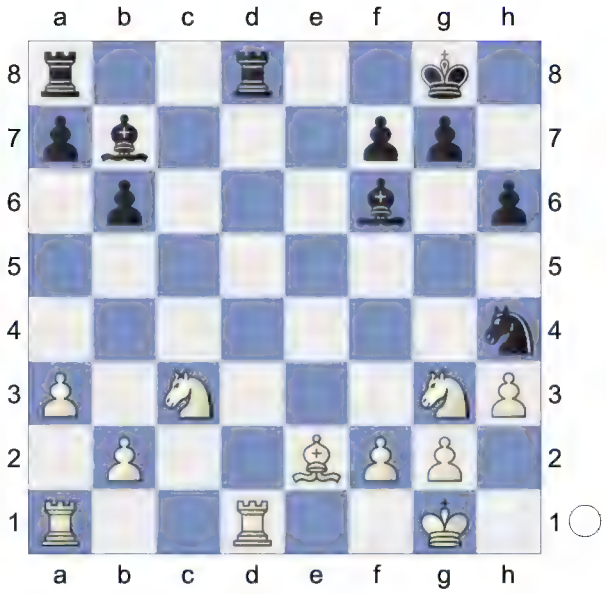
24.bxa3 Rxc3 25.Qb2 Rc7 26.Qb6 Rcd7 27.Rc1 Nc6 28.Rfd1 Bg4 29.f3 Be6 30.Kf2 Re8 31.Rc3 Rde7 32.Rd2 ½-½ Sarrazin,C (1988)-Martinez,J (2059) Sautron op 14th 2014 (6)]

9.Nbc3 0-0 10.0-0 Ne7

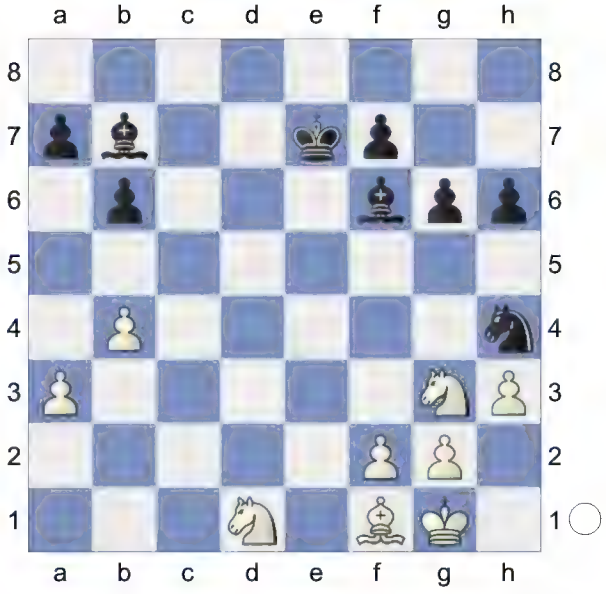
The position is equal. **11.Bg5 Ng6**
12.a3 Be7 13.h3 -0.09/16
[13.h4± 0.32/17]
13...h6 14.Be3 e5 0.43/16
[14...Nh4= -0.14/17]
15.Ng3 exd4



16.Bxd4 Nh4 17.Be2 b6 18.Bxf6 -0.22/21
[⌓18.Re1 0.30/17]
18...Bxf6= 19.Qxd8 -0.87/20
[19.Re1∓ -0.34/18]
19...Rxd8∓ 20.Rfd1 Bb7

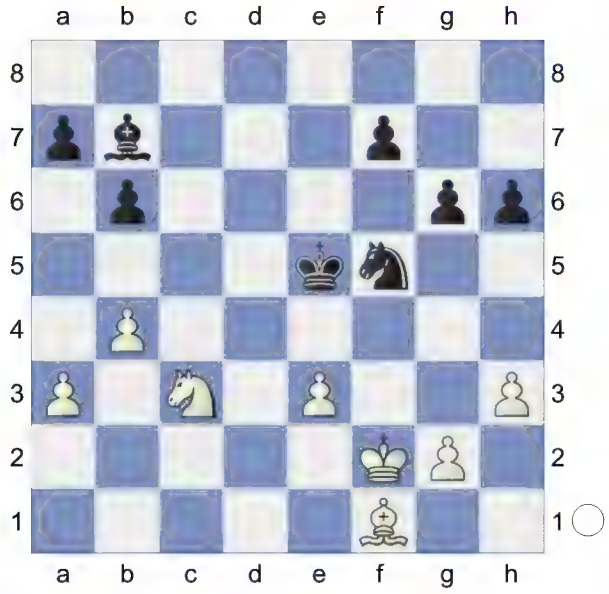


A strong pair of Bishops. **21.Bf1 g6**
Black is more active. **22.Rxd8+ Rxd8**
[Much weaker is 22...Bxd8?! 23.Rd1=]
23.Rd1 Rxd1 24.Nxd1 Kf8 25.b4 Ke7



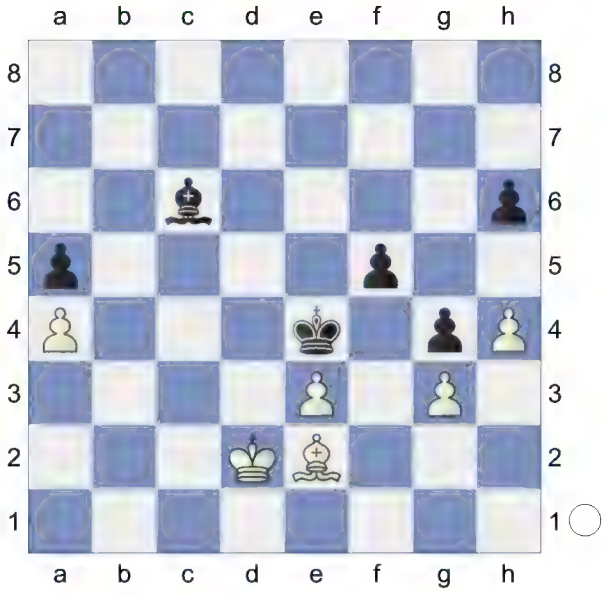
26.Ne3 Bd4 27.Ne2 Bxe3 -0.42/22
[27...Be5∓ -0.85/18]

28.fxe3 Endgame. KBN-KBN **28...Ke6 29.Kf2 Ke5 30.Nc3 Nf5**

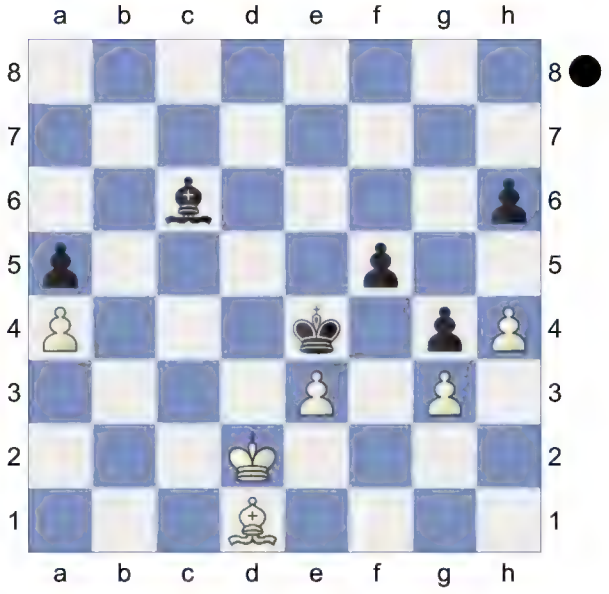


31.Bc4 Nd6 32.Bd3 f5 33.g3 g5 34.h4 Be4 35.Be2 g4

36.a4 -0.80/24
[36.Nb5∓ -0.33/21 might be stronger.]
36...a5 37.bxa5 bxa5 38.Ke1 Bc6
Threatens to win with ...Nd6-e4.
39.Kd2? -2.29/22 This costs White the game.
[39.Bd3∓ -0.49/22]
39...Ne4+-+ 40.Nxe4 Kxe4
[And not 40...Bxe4 41.Bb5=]

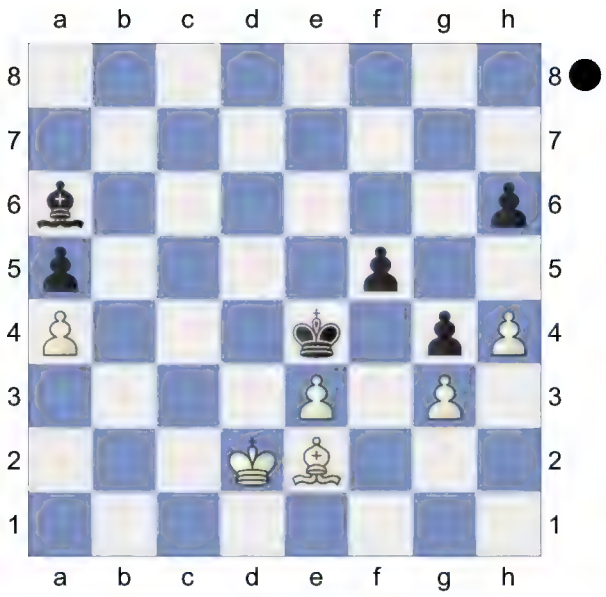


KB-KB **41.Bd1**

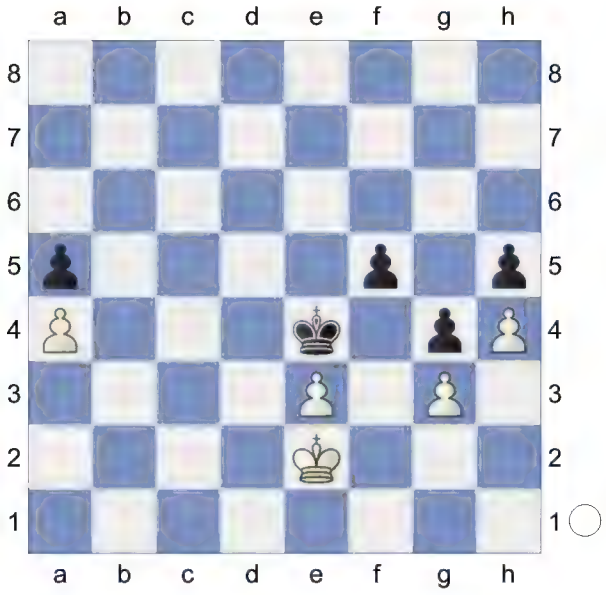


Bd5! 42.Ke2? -6.49/31
[42.h5 -2.61/24]
42...Bc4+ 43.Kd2 Ba6? -2.12/23
[43...h5 -5.42/26 44.Be2 Bb3]
44.Be2 -#19/25
[44.h5-+ -2.12/23]

(Diagram)



44...Bxe2! 45.Kxe2 h5



Weighted Error Value: White=0.52/ Black=0.20 (precise)
0-1

14 **C01**
□ **Geniuschess08** **2698**
■ **Wuzhaobing** **2703**
Blitz 21.07.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
We're in another classical game in 2015. It's a format of 90 minutes and then you get 30 minutes with 30 second bonus from move 40. Onischuk's accuracy here was 96.5% which is incredible. We're gonna skip a few boring wins against extremely weak players again. This game is another fun one though. Now, yes, George is a FM, but this one is a strong one. 2400 is a very good rating for an FM player, this guy is also young, at this point (2021) he's 19 so he is a young but solid player. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Bd7
0.33/19
[8...Ne5= -0.09/18 deserves consideration. 9.Nc3 Bb4 10.Ndb5 Nxf3+ *(10...Bd7 11.a3 Bxc3+ 12.Nxc3 Nxf3+ 13.Qxf3 Bc6 14.Qg3*

0-0 15.Rd1 Qa5 16.0-0 Rfd8 17.Bd4 Qf5 18.Rd3 Rd7 19.Rfd1 Rad8 20.Bxf6 Qxf6 21.Rxd7 Bxd7 22.Qc7 Qe7 23.Qxb7 a5 24.h3 Qe8 25.Qc7 1-0 (26) Onischuk,V (2620)-Stoleriu,G (2419) Titled 21st Dec 2021 (3) *)* 11.Qxf3 Bxc3+ 12.Nxc3 0-0 13.0-0 Qa5 14.Rfd1 a6 15.h3 Re8 16.Rd6 Qf5 17.Qxf5 exf5 18.Rb6 Nd7 19.Rb4 Nf8 20.Nd5 Ne6 21.Nb6 Rb8 22.Rd1 g5 23.Rd5 f4 1-0 (40) Onischuk,V (2669)-Mammadov,Z (2487) Nakhchivan Open 2015 (8.10)]

9.Nc3N

[9.Nxc6 simplifies Bxc6 10.Bxc6+ bxc6 11.Qxd8+ Rxd8 *(11...Kxd8 12.Nd2* 40) 1.e4 e6 French: 3...dxe4-French: 3...dxe4 with 6...Nc6*)* 12.Bxa7 Nd5 13.a4]

9...Bb4 10.Ndb5 0-0

11.a3 Ba5 0.00/18

[11...Be7∓ -0.39/19 might be stronger.]

12.b4 -0.50/20

[Better is 12.Bc5= 0.00/18]

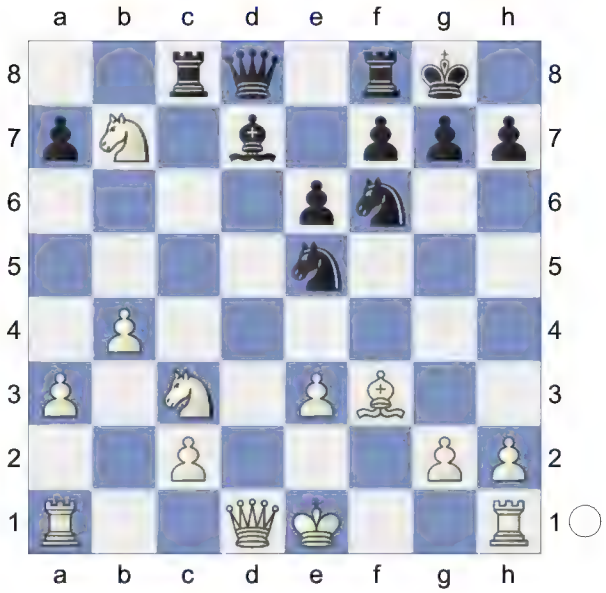
12...Bb6∓ 13.Nd6 Bxe3 14.fxe3 Ne5 0.27/20

[14...Qc7∓ -0.49/19 15.Qd2 Ne5]

15.Nxb7 -0.50/20

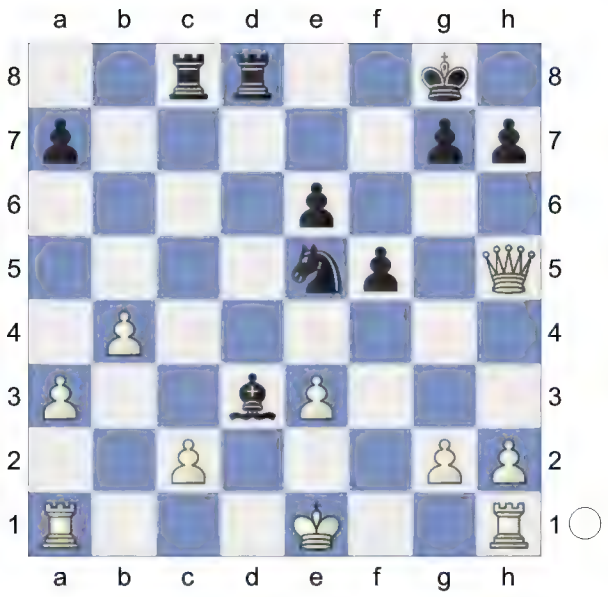
[White should try 15.Bxb7= 0.27/20 Qc7 16.Qd4]

15...Rc8? 6.92/20

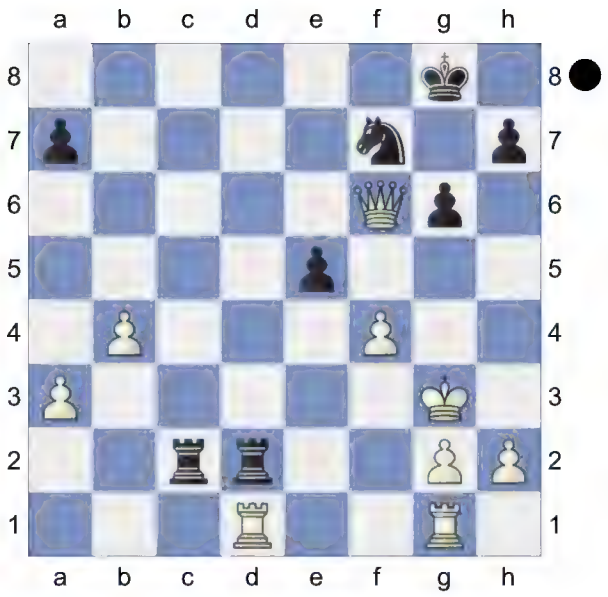


Loses the game. **16.Nxd8+- Rfxd8 17.Ne4 Nxe4 18.Bxe4 Bb5 19.Qh5 f5 20.Bd3 Bxd3**

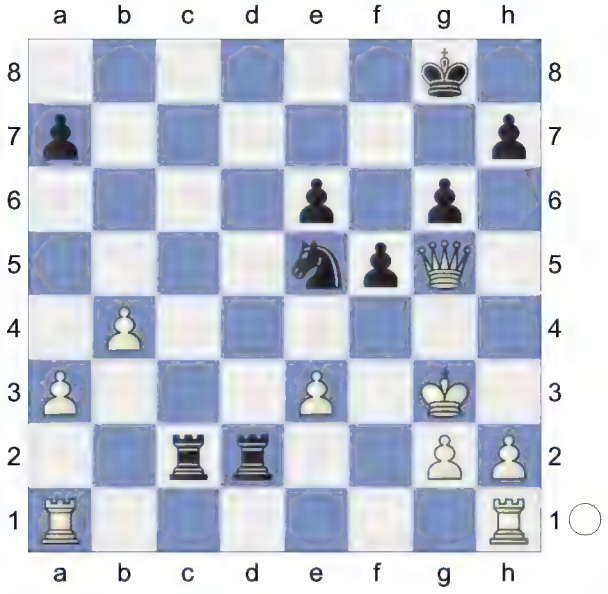
(Diagram)



21.cxd3 Nxd3+ 22.Ke2 Rc2+ 23.Kf3 Ne5+ 24.Kg3 g6 25.Qg5 Rdd2

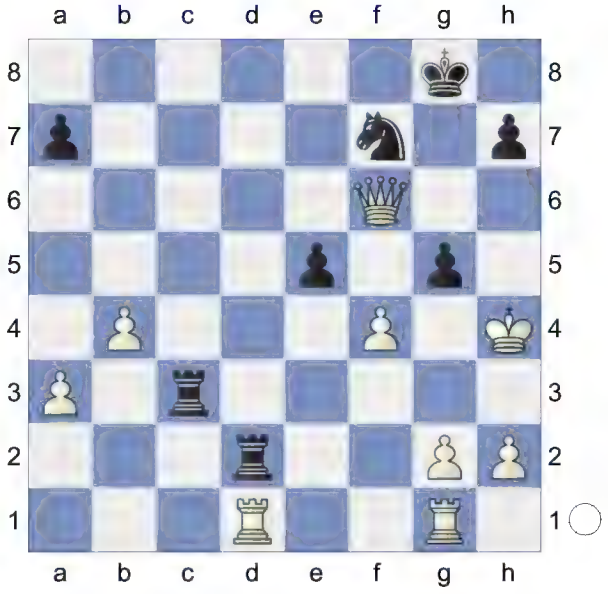


Hoping for Rd1xd2. **29...Rc3+ 30.Kh4 g5+**



26.Rhg1 Nf7 27.Qf6 e5 28.Rad1 f4+ 29.exf4

(Diagram)

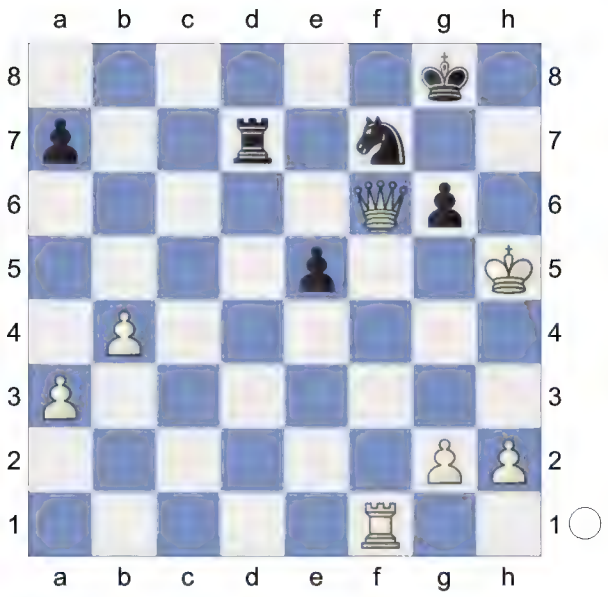


31.Kh5 Rcd3 32.Rxd2 Rxd2 33.fxg5 Rd4 34.Rf1 Rd7 35.g6 15.18/5

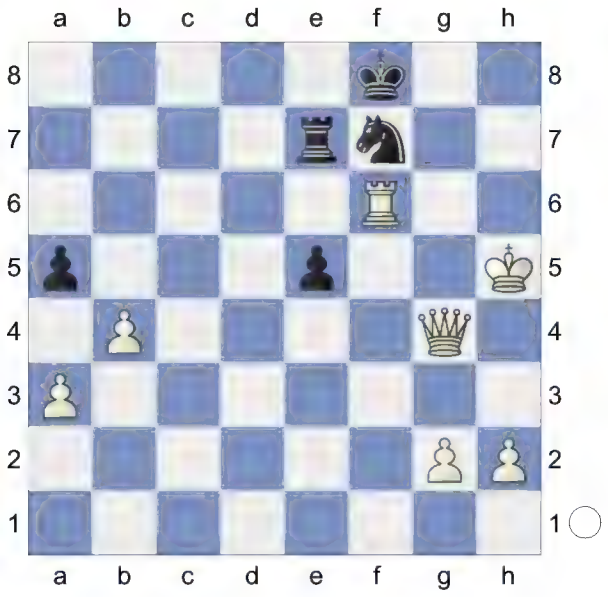
[⌓35.Qe6 #6/14 Rc7 36.Rxf7 *(36.Qe8+ Kg7+-)* 36...Rxf7 37.g6 *(37.Qxe5 Kf8+-)* 37...hxg6+ 38.Kxg6 *(38.Qxg6+ Kf8+-)* 38...a6 39.Qxf7+ Kh8 40.Qh7#]

35...hxg6+

(Diagram)



36.Qxg6+ Kf8 37.Qe6 Re7 38.Qc8+ Kg7 39.Qg4+ Kf8 40.Rf6 a5

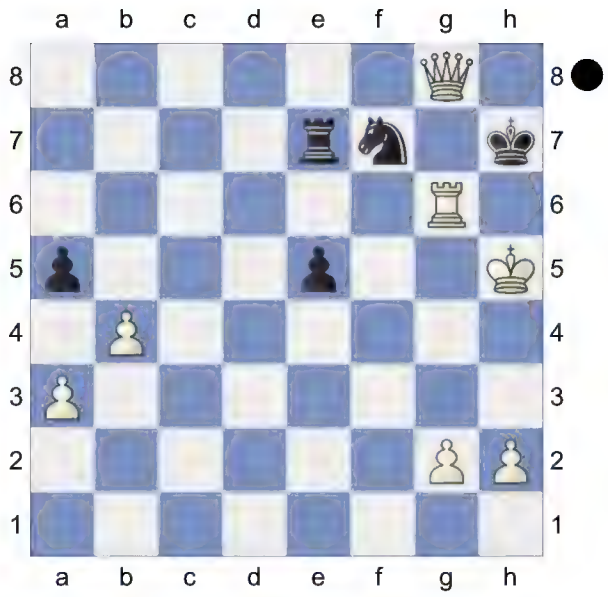


41.Qc8+ 13.24/5

[⌓41.Kg6 #5/14 Rc7 42.Qe6 *(42.bxa5 Ke8 43.Qe6+* Deflection, Double Attack *Kd8 44.Rxf7 Rxf7 45.Qxf7 Kc8 46.a6 e4 47.a7 e3 48.a8Q#)* 42...Re7 43.Rxf7+ Kg8 44.Rxe7+ Discovered Attack (Check) Kh8 45.Rh7#]

41...Kg7 42.Rg6+ Kh7 43.Qg8#

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/ Black=0.56

1-0

15 **C01**

□ **Geniuschess08** **2676**

■ **Chariteawithambition** **2732**

Blitz 29.07.2024

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min

C01: French: Exchange Variation

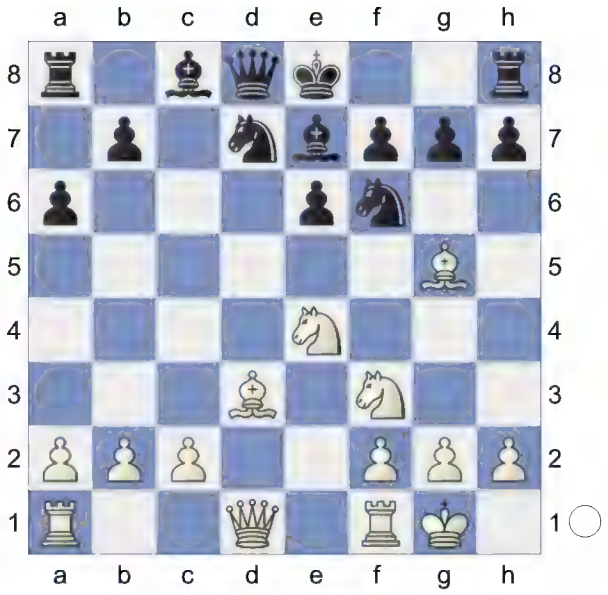
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.Nc3 Qd8

[5...Qxd4 6.Nb5 Qd8 7.Bf4 Na6 8.Qe2 Bd7 9.Nf3 Nf6 10.0-0-0 Nd5 11.Bg3 Be7 12.Ne5 0-0 13.Nxd7 Qxd7 14.c4 Nab4 15.a3 Nxd3+ 16.Qxd3 Rad8 17.Qb3 a6 18.Nc3 Nxc3 19.Rxd7 Ne2+ 20.Kd1 1-0 (80) Dragnev,V (2544)-Ftacnik,L (2462) Bundesliga 2223 2022 (11.8)]

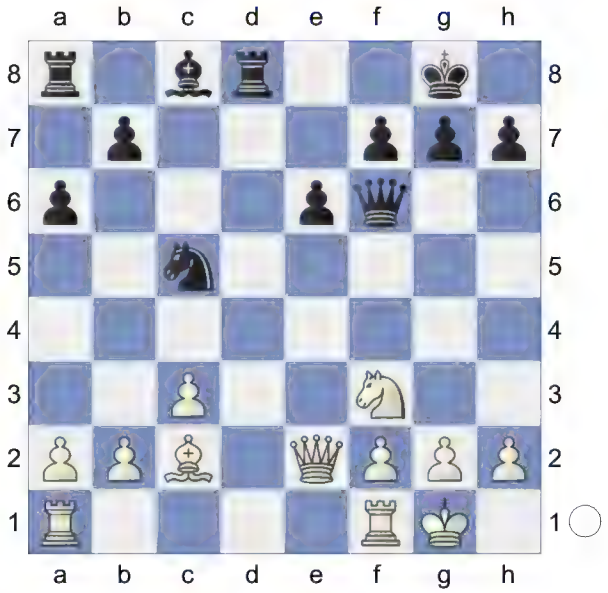
(Diagram)

6.Nf3 Nf6N
[6...cxd4 7.Nxd4 Nf6 8.0-0 Bc5 9.Nf3 0-0 10.Bg5 Be7 11.Qe2 Nbd7 12.Rad1 a6 13.Ne4 Qc7 14.c3 b6 15.Bb1 Bb7 16.Rxd7 Qxd7 17.Rd1 Qc7 18.Nxf6+ Bxf6 19.Qc2 Rfd8 20.Qxh7+ Kf8 21.Re1 0-1 (40) Roebers,E (2360)-Shimanov,A (2581) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st Feb Early blitz 2023 (4) Bxf3 22.Bxf6 gxf6 23.gxf3 Ke7 24.Bf5 Rd6 25.Bh3 Rad8 26.Kg2 Qc5 27.Re4 f5 28.Bxf5 Qd5 29.Bg4 Qg5 30.h4 Qf6 31.Qh5 Rh8 32.Qg5 Qxg5 33.hxg5 Rg8 34.f4 Rd2 35.Kf3 Rxb2 36.f5 0-1 (40) Hastings Variation,W (2360)-Sherlock,A (2581) 50/207 Groningen 1990 (4)]
7.0-0 a6 8.dxc5 White is slightly better.
8...Bxc5 9.Bg5 Nbd7 10.Ne4 Be7

(Diagram)

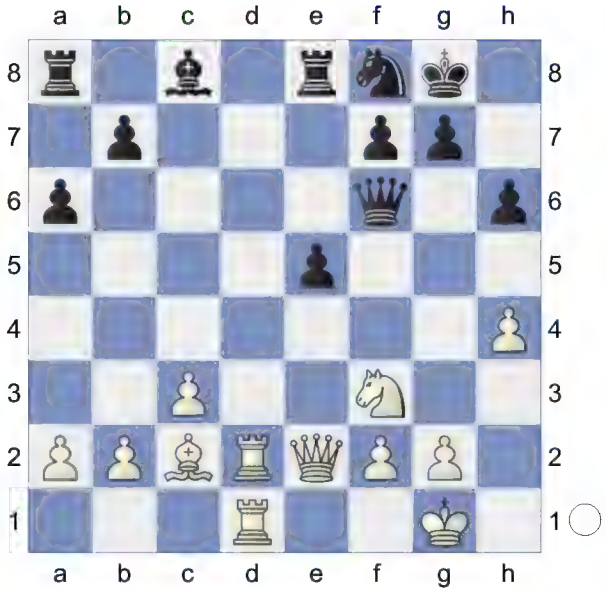


11.Nxf6+ Bxf6 12.Bxf6 Qxf6 13.c3 0-0 14.Qe2 Nc5 0.75/20
[14...Qe7= 0.28/17 was preferrable.]
15.Bc2± Rd8 1.19/20
[⌓15...a5 0.74/17]



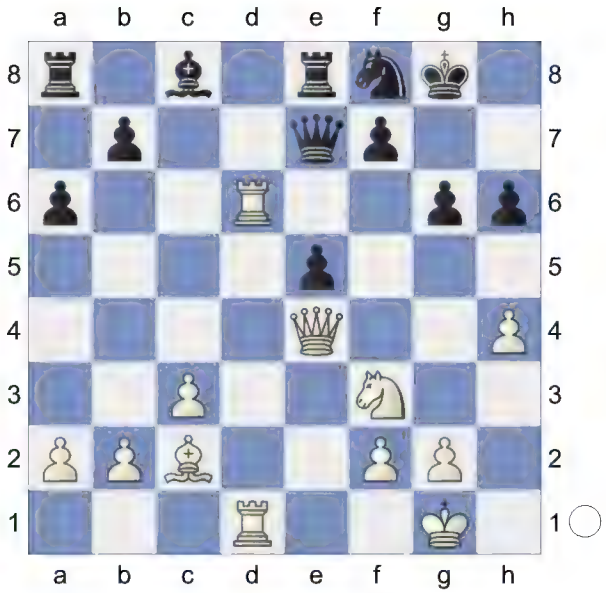
16.Rad1 Re8 2.37/19
[16...Nd7± 1.17/20 was worth a try.]
17.Rfe1 1.11/17
[17.Ne5+- 2.37/19 and White stays clearly on top.]
17...Nd7 18.h4 h6 1.48/19
[Better is 18...Nf8 0.90/18]

19.Rd2 0.91/20
[⌓19.Qe4 1.48/19]
19...e5 20.Red1 0.18/20
[20.Qe4± 1.15/18 And now Qe4-h7+ would win. Nf8 21.Re3 *(21.Nxe5 Qb6+-)*]
20...Nf8 0.80/19
[20...Qe7!= 0.18/20 keeps the balance.]

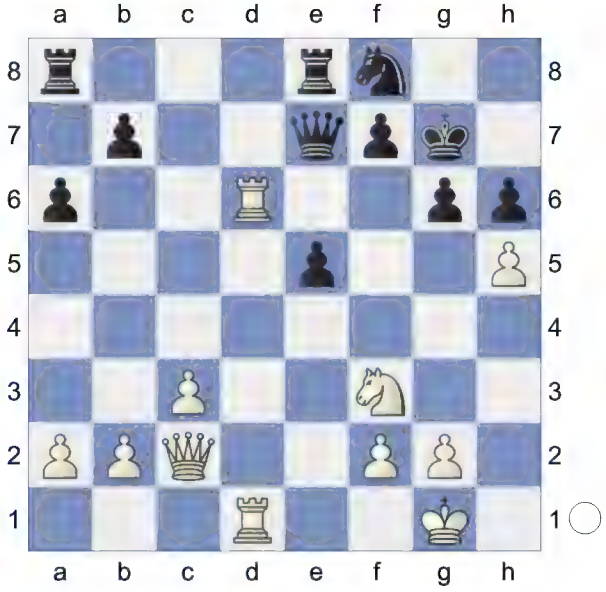


21.Qe4 g6 1.18/21
[⌓21...Rb8 0.76/18]
22.Rd6↑ White has strong initiative.
22...Qe7

(Diagram)



Black is weak on the dark squares **23.h5** 0.62/21 **Bf5±** **24.Qe2 Bxc2 25.Qxc2 Kg7** 1.60/20
[25...e4± 0.40/22 26.Nh2 e3 27.fxe3 *(27.Ng4? e2-+)* 27...Qxe3+ 28.Qf2 Qxf2+ 29.Kxf2 Re7]



26.hxg6± fxg6 2.41/21
[⌓26...Nxg6 1.69/20 27.Qe4 Rad8]
27.Qb3 1.04/20
[27.Qe4+- 2.41/21]
27...Rac8 2.05/22
[27...e4± 1.04/20 28.Rb6 Rab8

(28...exf3? 29.Rxb7 Pin Ra7 30.Rxe7+ Rexe7 31.c4+-)]

28.Rb6 Threatens to win with Rd1-d5!

[Worse is 28.Nxe5 Qxe5 29.Qxb7+ Kh8 30.Qxa6 Qe4∓]

28...Rc7 29.Rdd6 0.72/21

[29.Re1+- 1.71/21 has better winning chances. Qf7 30.Qxf7+ *(30.Nxe5 Qxb3 31.Rxb3 Rce7±)* 30...Kxf7 31.Nxe5+ Kg7 32.Re3]

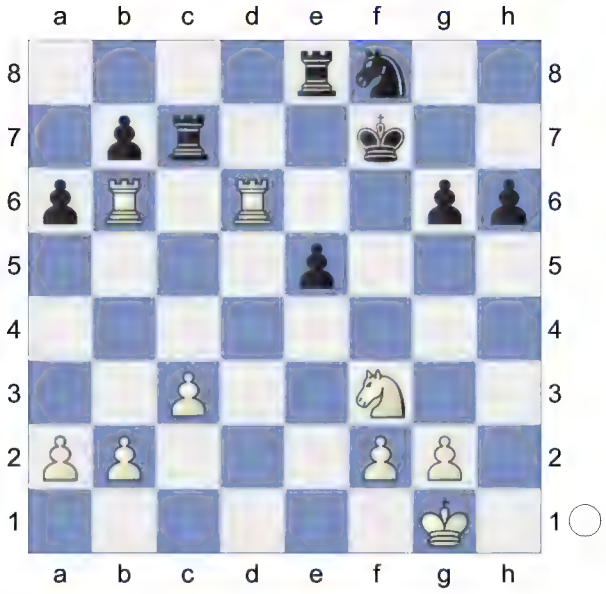
29...Qf7 1.58/22

[⌓29...e4 0.72/21 30.Nd4 Qg5]

30.Qxf7+ 0.82/21

[⌓30.Qb4 1.58/22]

30...Kxf7



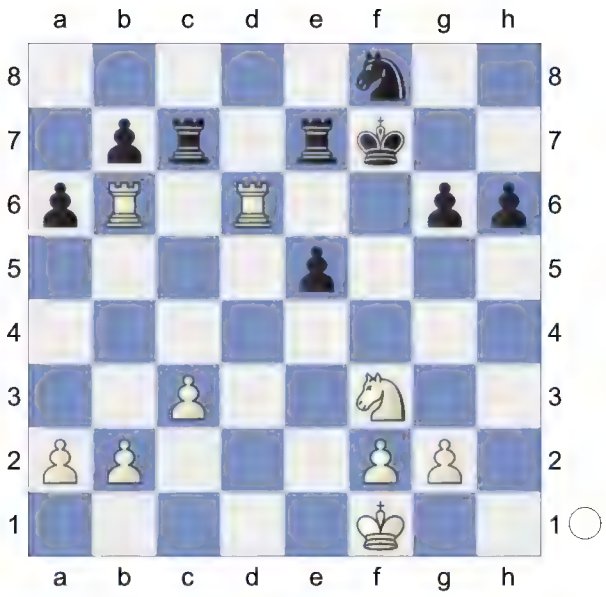
31.Kf1 0.29/21

[31.Rf6+!± 1.20/20 Kg7 32.Kf1 *(32.Nh4 Rd8±)*]

31...Ree7 1.29/20

[31...Nd7= 0.29/21 32.Rb4 Re6 33.Rxe6 Kxe6]

(Diagram)

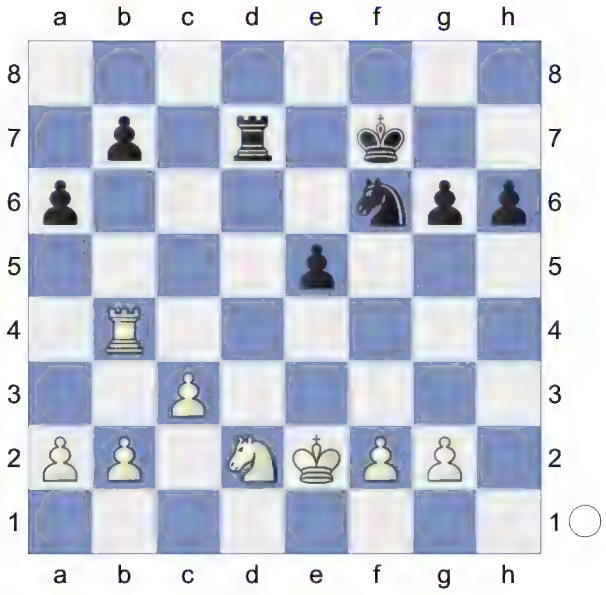


32.Ke2 0.27/21

[32.Rf6+!± 1.29/20 Kg7 33.Nh4]

32...Nd7= 33.Rb4 Nf6 34.Nd2 Red7 35.Rxd7+ Rxd7± 1.26/20

[35...Nxd7± 0.41/23 36.Ne4 Ke6]



Endgame. KRN-KRN **36.f3?** -0.25/21

[White should play 36.Nc4± 1.26/20 Kf8 37.Nxe5]

36...Ke6 1.11/22

[36...Nd5= -0.25/21 37.Re4 Nf4+ 38.Kd1 Nxg2 39.Rxe5 h5]

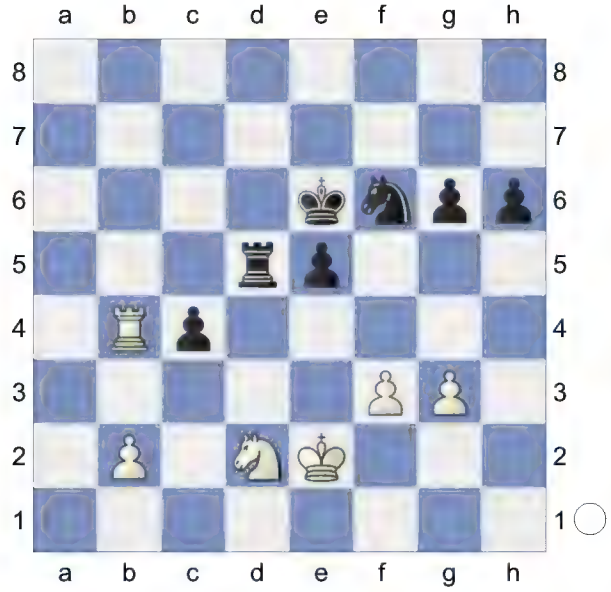
37.g3 0.29/21

[37.Nb3± 1.11/22 Hoping for Nb3-c5+. Nd5 38.Nc5+ Kd6 39.Nxb7+ Ke7 40.Nc5]

37...b5= 38.a4 Rd5 0.47/20

[38...Nd5= 0.06/21 39.Rh4 h5]

39.axb5 axb5 40.c4 bxc4



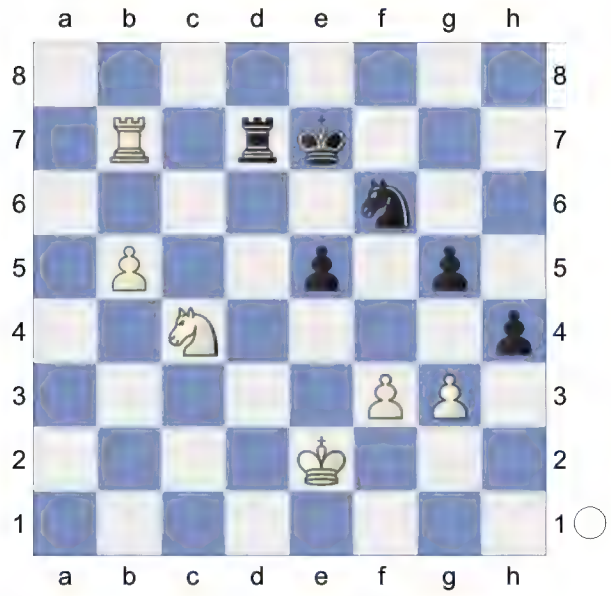
41.Nxc4 h5 42.Rb6+ Ke7 43.b4 g5 0.54/20

[43...e4= 0.01/20]

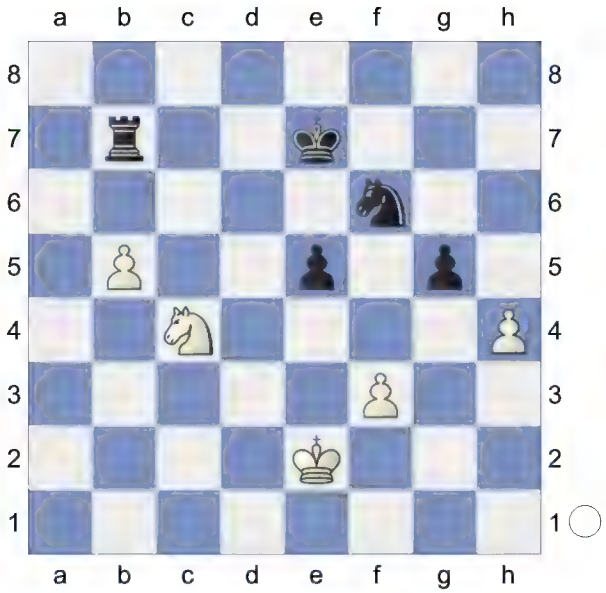
44.b5 -0.01/19

[44.Ne3!± 0.54/20 Rd7 45.b5]

44...h4 45.Rb7+ Rd7



46.gxh4? -5.47/24 **Rxb7**



Both players deserved the win here.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.55/ Black=0.42

0-1

16 **C01**

□ **Killer** **2868**

■ **Poik4M** **2595**

Rapid 30.07.2024

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 10min

C01: French: Exchange Variation

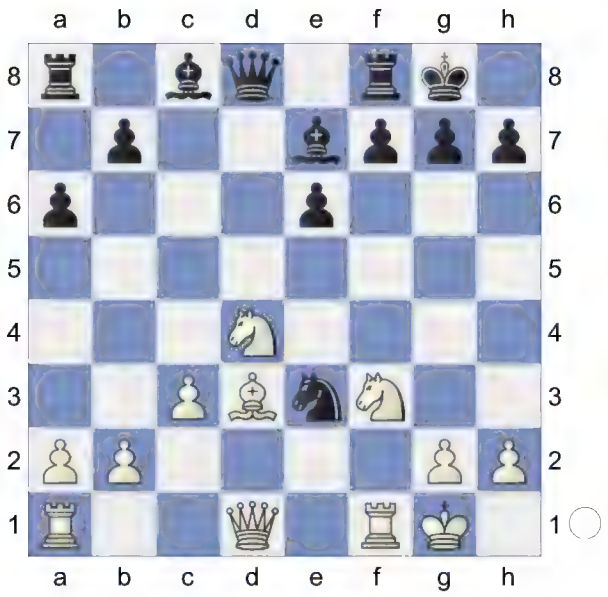
We're gonna skip a few games where Onischuk won as the players he played were far beyond him and they brought nothing new, nothing extremely exciting. This game though is a Short n' Sweet. It's the European Blitz Championship of 2016. It was the day when Onischuk chose violence. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**

(Diagram)

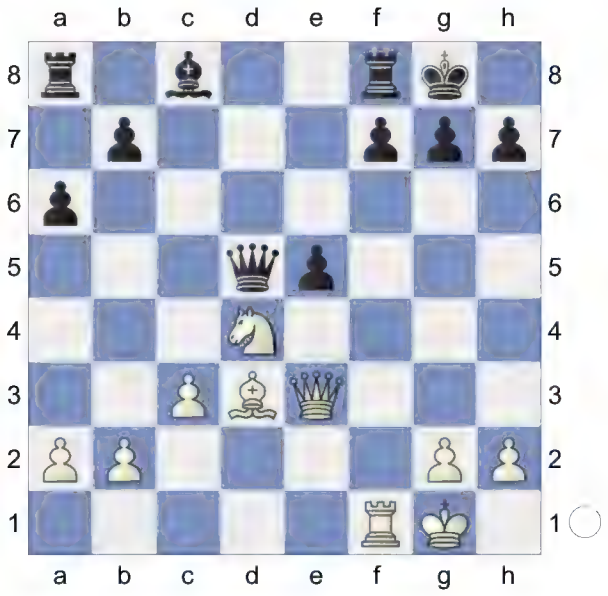
6.Ne2 Nc6 7.c3
[7.Be3 Nd5 8.Bxd5 Qxd5 9.Nbc3 Qxg2 10.Rg1 Qxh2 11.Bf4 Qh5 12.Nb5 Ke7 13.Bd6+ Kf6 14.dxc5 e5 15.Nc7 Bxd6 16.Qxd6+ Be6 17.Nd5+ 1-0 Onischuk,V (2601)-Martinovic,S (2550) European Blitz 2016 (12.24)]
7...Be7 8.Be3N
[8.0-0 0-0
A) 9.Be3 cxd4 10.cxd4 h6 *(10...Nd5 11.Bxd5 Qxd5 12.Nbc3 Qc4 13.b3 Qa6 14.Nf4 Rd8 15.Rc1 Qa5 16.d5 Ba3 17.Rc2 e5 18.Nh5 Bf5 19.f4 Bxc2 20.Qxc2 Nd4 21.Bxd4 exd4 22.Ne4 Qb6 23.Qd3 Qg6 24.Qf3 f5 25.Ng5* 0-1 (46) Saravanabaavan,B (1627)-Hossain,E (2392) Commonwealth-ch 2022 (2) *)* 11.Nbc3 a6 12.a3 Nd5 13.Nxd5 exd5 14.Rc1 Be6 15.Qd2 Na5 16.Rc3 Nc4 17.Qc2 Rc8 18.Nf4 Qa5 19.Nxe6 fxe6 20.Rc1 Rc6 21.Bxh6 gxh6 22.Qg6+ Kh8 23.Qxh6+ Kg8 1-0 (29) Narayani,U (1462)-Goyal,K (1522) IND-ch U09 Girls 37th 2024 (8);
B) 9.Re1 cxd4 10.cxd4 Nd5 11.Nbc3 Bf6 12.Nxd5 exd5 13.Be3 Be6 14.Nc3 Rc8 15.Qd2 Na5 16.b3 Nc6 17.Rac1 Qd7 18.Na4 b6 19.Nc3 Rfe8 20.g3 g6 21.Bg2 Bg7 22.Ne2 Bf5 0-1 (37) Valle,L (2268)-Odegov,A (2286) Titled Tuesday intern op 15th Nov Early blitz 2022 (3)]
8...cxd4 Black has an edge. **9.Nxd4 Ne5 10.Be2 0-0**

11.0-0 a6 12.Nd2 -0.56/19
[12.Nf3= -0.11/19 should be considered. Nxf3+ 13.Bxf3]
12...Nd5∓ 13.N2f3 -1.27/19
[Better is 13.Nc2∓ -0.66/19]
13...Nxe3∓ 14.fxe3 Ng4 15.Bd3 -2.42/19 Loses the game.
[15.Nc2∓ -1.16/19]
15...Nxe3-+

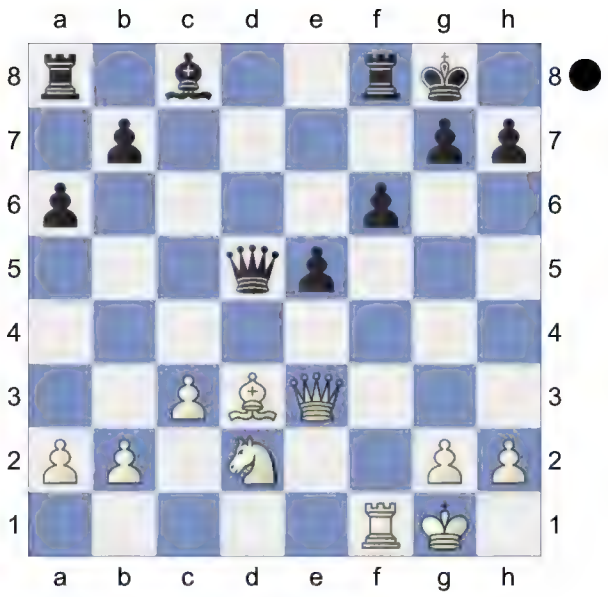
(Diagram)



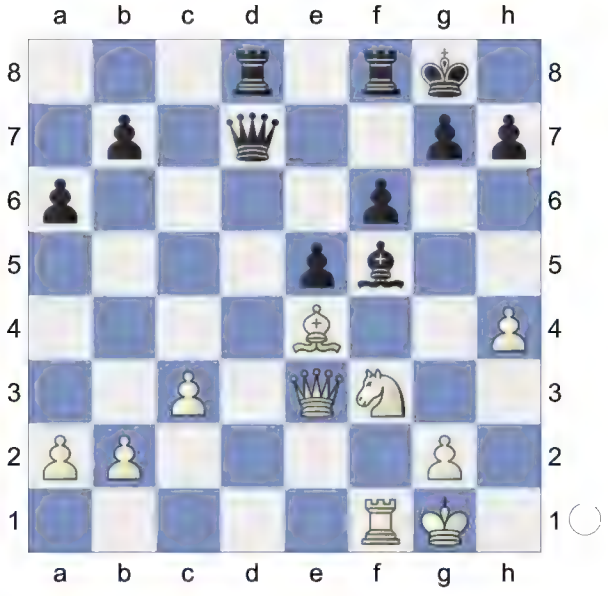
16.Qe2 -2.47/17
[16.Bxh7+ -1.77/18 was worth a try. Kh8 *(16...Kxh7? 17.Qd3+ Nf5 18.g4-+* Pin *)* 17.Qe1 Nxf1 18.Bc2]
16...Nxf1 17.Rxf1 Bf6 18.Ne5 Bxe5 19.Qxe5 Qd5 20.Qe3 e5
[20...Qxa2 21.Rb1]



21.Nf3 f6
[21...Qxa2 22.Ng5 g6 *(22...Qxb2 23.Bxh7+ Kh8 24.Bg6=* Pin *)* 23.Qxe5∓]
22.Nd2



aiming for Bd3-c4. **22...Be6**
[22...Qxa2? 23.Bc4++-]
23.Be4 Qd7 24.Nf3 Rad8 25.h4 Bf5



26.h5 Bxe4 27.Qxe4 Qd5 28.Qf5 Qxa2 29.h6 g6
[Weaker is 29...Qxb2 30.Qe6+ Kh8 31.Ng5 gxh6 *(31...fxg5 32.hxg7+ Kxg7 33.Qxe5+ Kg8 34.Qxg5+ Kh8 35.Qe5+ Kg8 36.Qg3+ Kh8 37.Qe5+ Kg8 38.Qg3+ Kh8 39.Qe5+=)* 32.Nf7+ Rxf7 33.Qxf7 Qb6+ *(33...Qxc3 34.Qxf6+ Kg8 35.Qxd8+ Kg7 36.Qf6+ Kg8*

37.Qf8#) 34.Kh2∓]

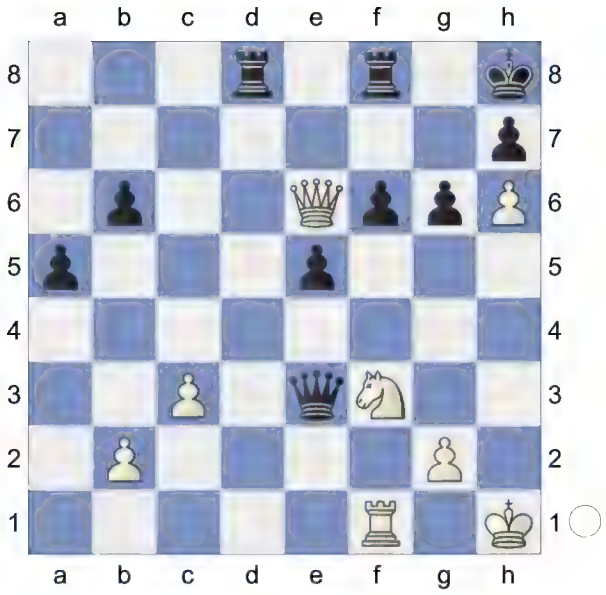
30.Qe4 Qd5

[30...Qxb2 31.Qc4+ Rf7 32.Ng5 Qb6+ 33.Kh2∓]

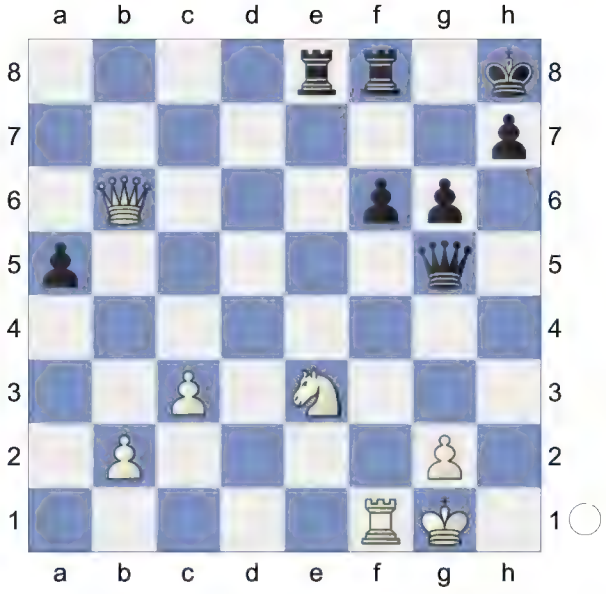
31.Qb4 a5 32.Qa3 b6 33.Kh1 Qc5

Hoping for ...Qc5xa3. **34.Qb3+ Kh8 35.Qe6 Qe3**

(Diagram)

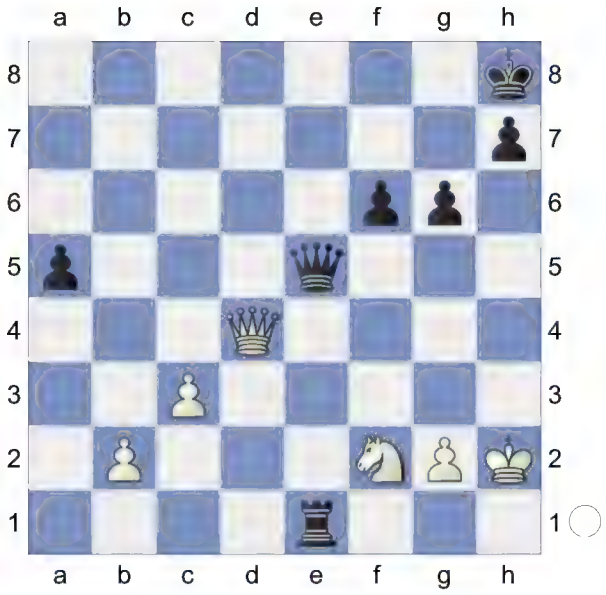


36.Nh2 Qxh6 37.Qxb6 e4 38.Kg1 e3 39.Ng4 Qg5 40.Nxe3 Rde8

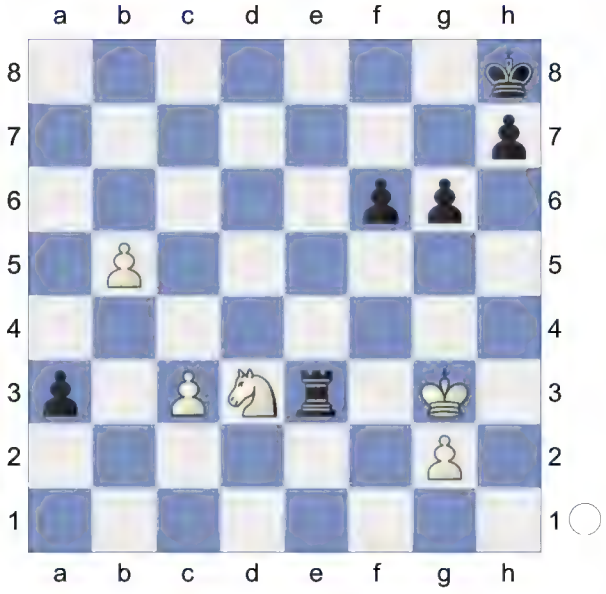


41.Nd1 Re2 42.Nf2 Rfe8 43.Qd4 Re1 44.Rxe1 Rxe1+ Endgame. KQR-KQN **45.Kh2 Qe5+**

(Diagram)



46.Qxe5 Rxe5 47.Kg3 Re2 48.b4 a4
Strongly threatening ...a4-a3. **49.b5 a3** (-> ...a3-a2) **50.Nd3 Re3+**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.40/ Black=0.21 (precise)
0-1

17 **C01**
□ **Arasanx** **2917**
■ **Aks Mantissa** **2710**
Rapid 25.02.2024
[Kitty Kat]

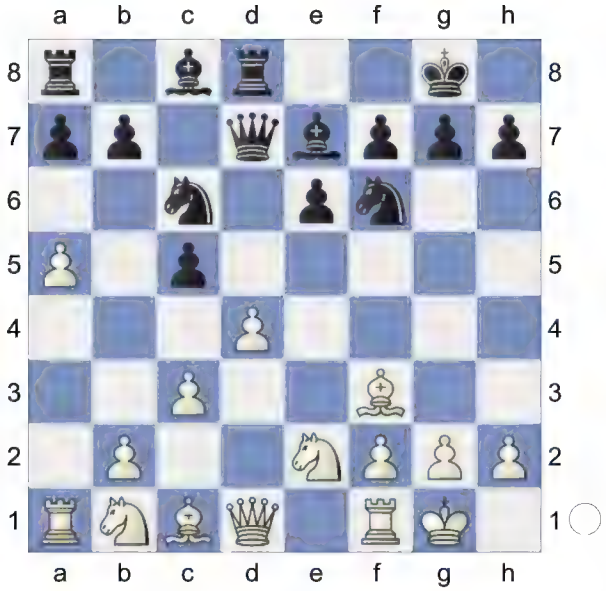
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.c3 Be7
[7...cxd4 8.cxd4 Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Nbc3 Qd7 11.Qa4 Rd8 12.Bf4 Nb4 13.Qb3 Nbd5 14.Be5 b6 15.Nxd5 Nxd5 16.Nf4 Nxf4 17.Bxa8 Ba6 18.Bf3 Bxf1 19.Rxf1 Ng6 20.Rd1 Bd6 21.Bxd6 Qxd6 22.g3 ½-½ (42) Mamedov,N (2583)-Martinovic,S (2504) EU-ch 12th Aix les Bains 2011 (9)]
8.0-0 0-0 9.a4N
[9.Re1 cxd4 10.cxd4 Nd5 11.Nbc3 Bf6 12.Nxd5 exd5 13.Be3 Be6 14.Nc3 Rc8 15.Qd2 Na5 16.b3 Nc6 17.Rac1 Qd7 18.Na4 b6 19.Nc3 Rfe8 20.g3 g6 21.Bg2 Bg7 22.Ne2 Bf5 23.Nc3 Nb4 0-1 (37) Valle,L (2268)-Odegov,A (2286) Titled

Tuesday intern op 15th Nov Early blitz 2022 (3)]

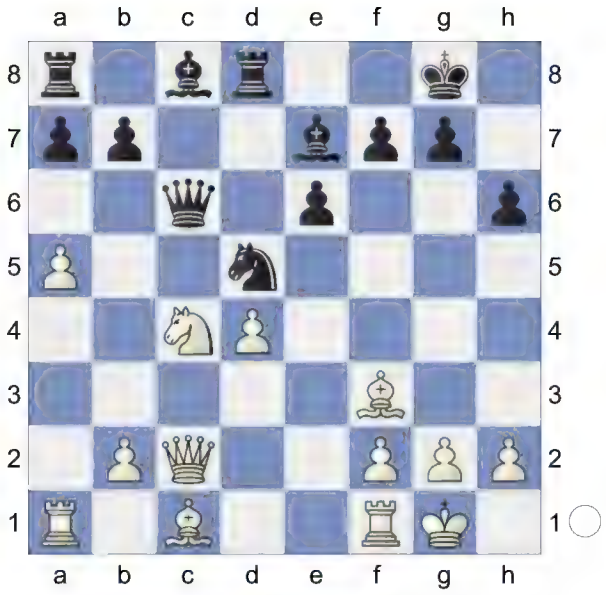
[9.Be3 cxd4 10.cxd4 h6 *(10...Nd5 11.Bxd5 Qxd5 12.Nbc3 Qc4 13.b3 Qa6 14.Nf4 Rd8 15.Rc1 Qa5 16.d5 Ba3 17.Rc2 e5 18.Nh5 Bf5 19.f4 Bxc2 20.Qxc2 Nd4 21.Bxd4 exd4 22.Ne4 Qb6 23.Qd3 Qg6 24.Qf3 f5 25.Ng5* 0-1 (46) Saravanabaavan,B (1627)-Hossain,E (2392) Commonwealth-ch 2022 (2)*)* 11.Nbc3 a6 12.a3 Nd5 13.Nxd5 exd5 14.Rc1 Be6 15.Qd2 Na5 16.Rc3 Nc4 17.Qc2 Rc8 18.Nf4 Qa5 19.Nxe6 fxe6 20.Rc1 Rc6 21.Bxh6 gxh6 22.Qg6+ Kh8 23.Qxh6+ Kg8 1-0 (29) Narayani,U (1462)-Goyal,K (1522) IND-ch U09 Girls 37th 2024 (8)]

9...Qd7 10.a5 Rd8

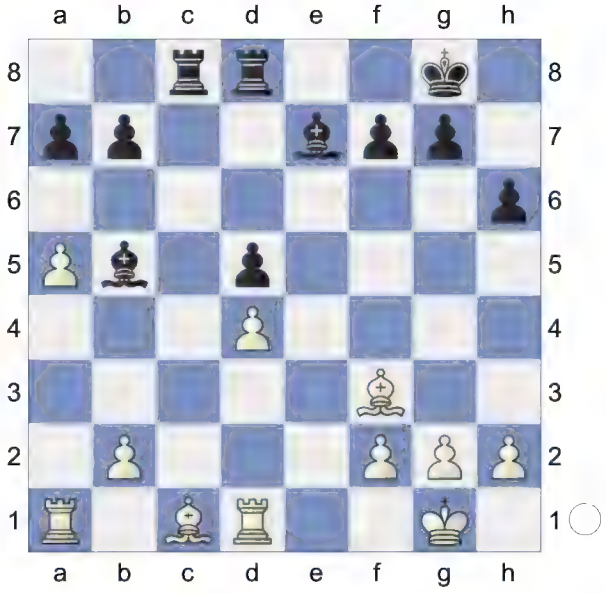


11.Qc2 h6 12.Na3 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Nxd4 14.cxd4 Nd5 15.Nc4 Qc6

(Diagram)

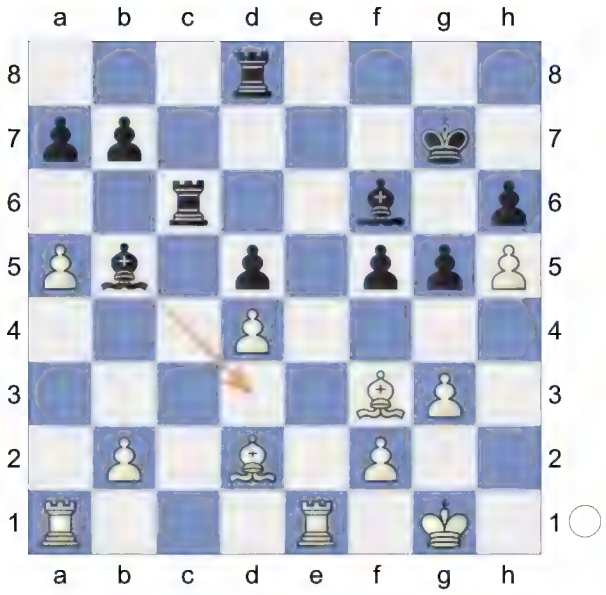


16.Qb3 Bd7 17.Ne3 Qb5 18.Qxb5 Bxb5 19.Nxd5 exd5 20.Rd1 Rac8

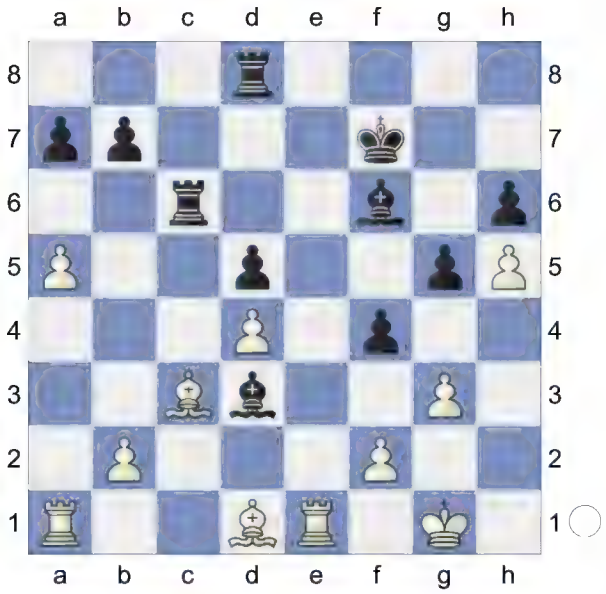


21.Bd2 g5 22.h4 Kg7 23.h5 Rc6 24.g3 f5 25.Re1 Bf6

(Diagram)



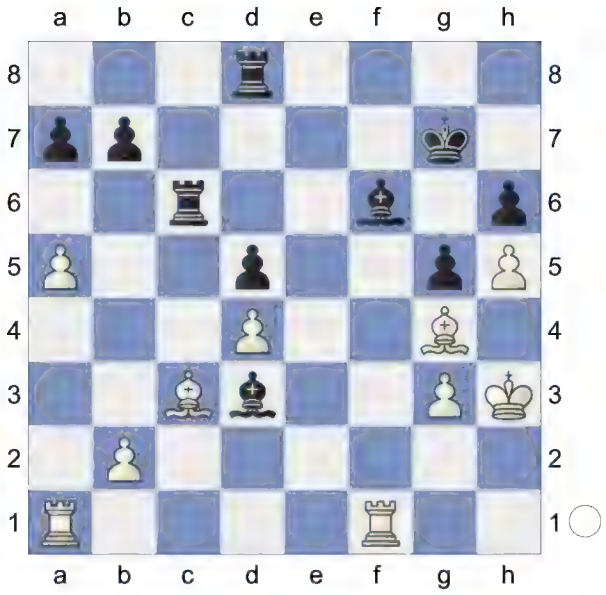
26.Bb4 Rd7 27.Bc3 Rd8 Inhibits Re1-e8. **28.Re3 Kf7 29.Bd1 f4 30.Re1 Bd3**



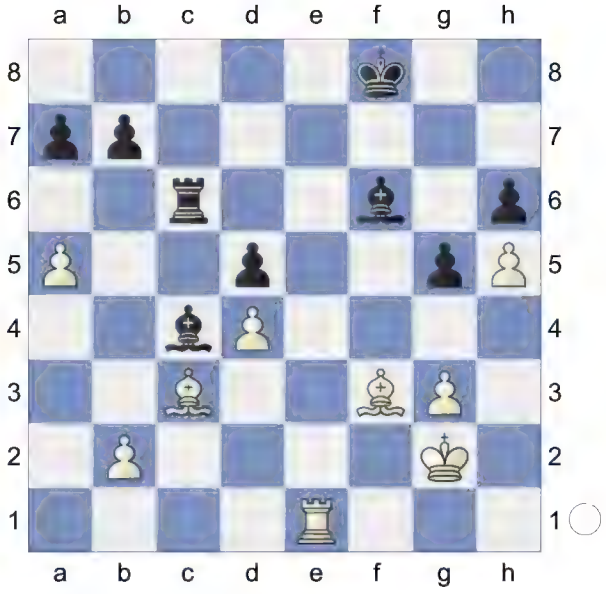
31.Kg2 fxg3 32.fxg3 Bf5 33.Rf1 Be4+ 34.Kh3 Kg7 35.Bg4 Bd3 0.51/24

[35...Rf8= 0.01/21]

(Diagram)

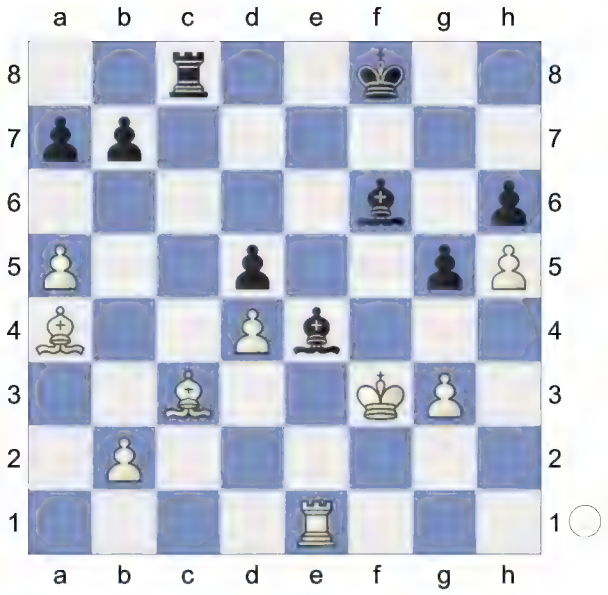


36.Rf2± Rf8 37.Kg2 Be7 38.Rxf8 Kxf8 39.Re1 Bf6 40.Bf3 Bc4

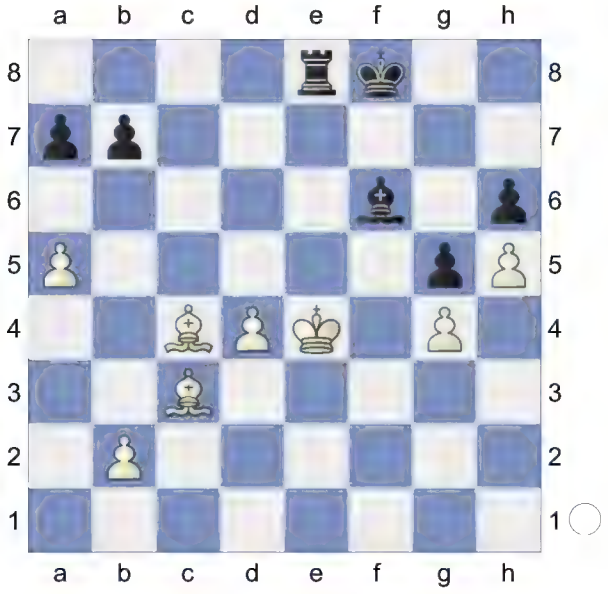


41.Bg4 Bd3! 42.Bf3 Bc4 43.Bd1 Bd3 44.Ba4 Rc8 The position is equal. **45.Kf3 Be4+**

(Diagram)

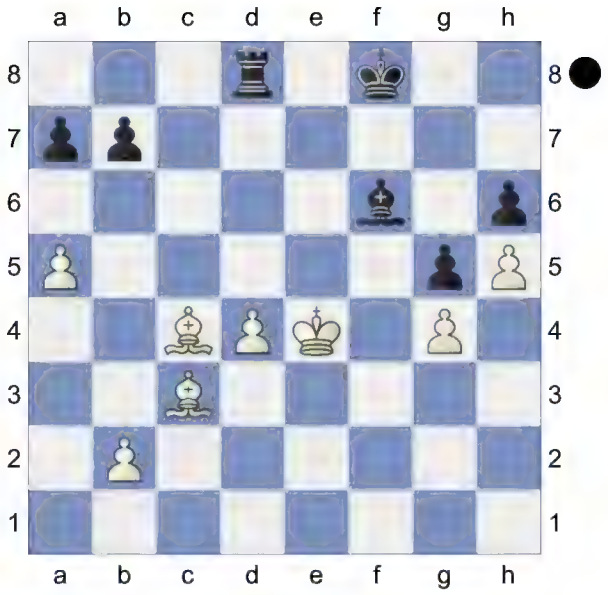


46.Rxe4 dxe4+ 47.Kxe4= Endgame. KRB-KB **47...Kg7 48.g4 Rd8 49.Bb5 Kf8 50.Bc4 Re8+**



51.Kd3
[51.Kf5!? Kg7□ 52.d5=]
51...Rd8 52.Ke4 Re8+ 53.Kd3
[53.Kf5!? Kg7□ 54.d5 Bxc3 55.bxc3=]
53...Rd8 54.Ke4

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)
½-½

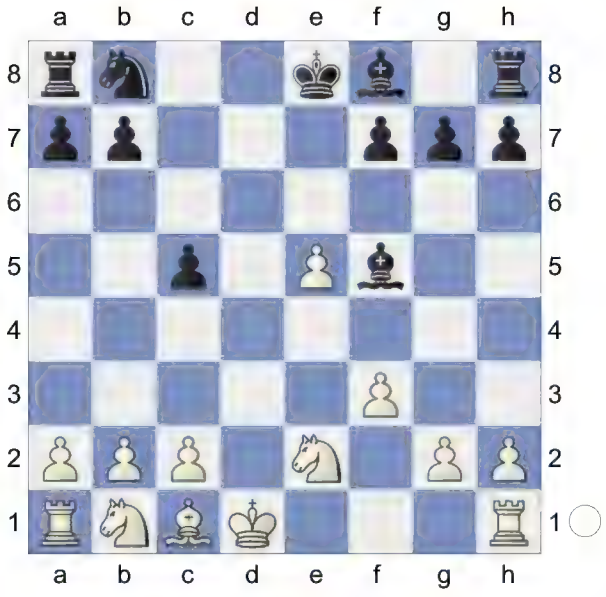
18 **C01**
□ **Durasno** **2649**
■ **Amancalleddonalp** **2661**
Blitz 22.07.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

(Diagram)

6.Ne2 e5 7.dxe5 Qxd1+ 8.Kxd1 Ng4 White has an edge. **9.Bxg4 Bxg4 10.f3 Bf5N**

[10...Bd7 11.Bf4 Nc6 12.Nd2 0-0-0 13.Nc3 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-6...e5]



11.Ng3 Bg6 12.h4 h4-h5 is the strong threat. **12...h6 13.Bf4 Nc6 14.h5 0-0-0+ 15.Kc1 Bh7**

[15...Bxc2!? 16.Kxc2 Nb4+ 17.Kb3 b5∓]

(Diagram)

16.Nc3 Be7 17.Nce4 Rd5 0.59/18

[17...Rhe8= 0.12/18]

18.Nd6+ -0.28/20

[18.b3± 0.59/18]

18...Bxd6= 19.exd6 Re8 20.Rd1 Rxd1+ 0.28/5

[⌓20...Nb4 -0.15/21 21.Rxd5 Nxd5]

21.Kxd1 Nb4 22.Kd2 -2.69/22

[22.Rc1= -0.17/21 and White stays safe.]

22...Nxc2? 0.92/22

[22...Nd5!-+ -2.69/22 23.Ne2 Rxe2+

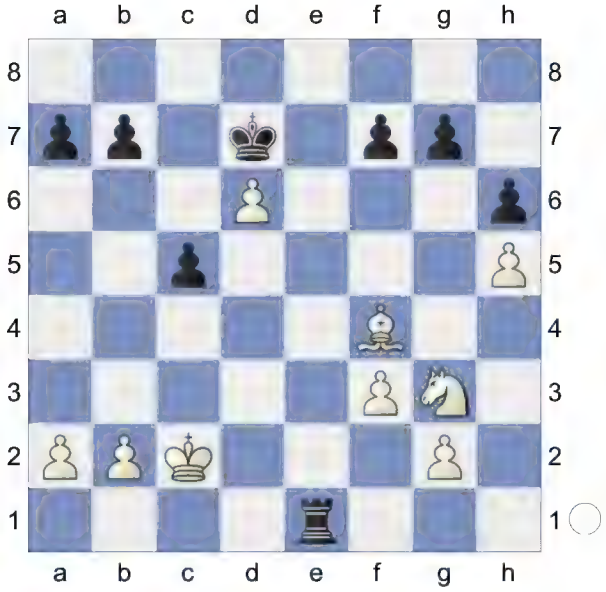
Remove Defender 24.Kxe2 Nxf4+ 25.Kf1 Bxc2 *(25...Nxh5? 26.Re1-+)*]

23.Rc1↑ White is really pushing.

23...Kd7 2.15/23

[23...b6± 0.88/23 was necessary.]

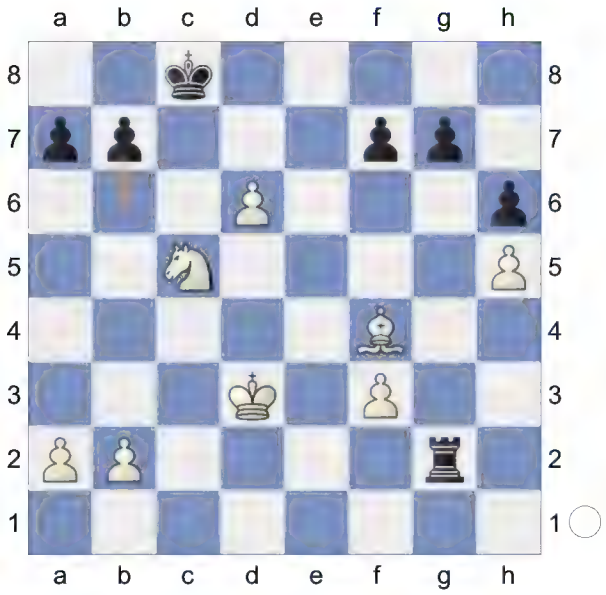
24.Rxc2+- Bxc2 25.Kxc2 Re1



26.Ne4 Re2+ 27.Kd3 Rxg2? 5.07/22

[27...Rxb2 1.99/22 is more resistant. 28.Nxc5+ Kc8]

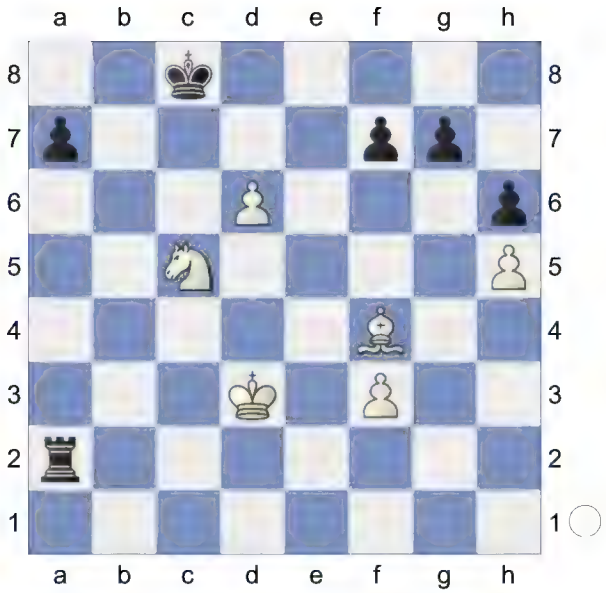
28.Nxc5+ Kc8



29.Nxb7 Deflection, Promotion

29...Rxb2 30.Nc5 Rxa2

(Diagram)



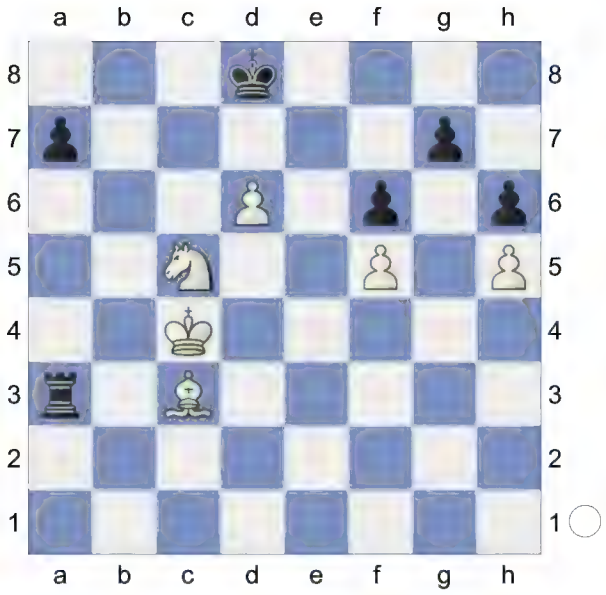
31.Be5 f6 32.Bc3 Ra3 33.Kc4 Threatens to win with Kc4-b4. **33...Kd8**

34.f4 6.73/24

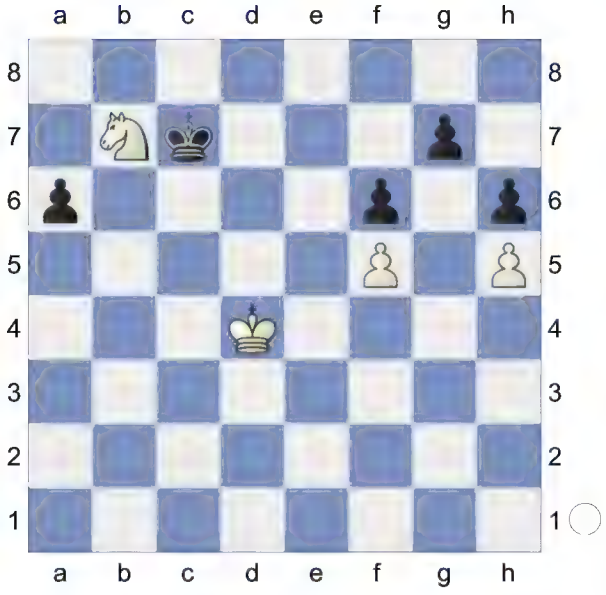
[⌓34.Kb4 17.26/24 Rxc3 35.Kxc3 a5 36.Kd4 a4 37.Kd5 *(37.Nxa4 Ke8 38.Kd5 Kf7 39.d7 Ke7 40.Kc6 f5 41.Nb6 f4 42.Nd5+ Ke6)* 37...Ke8 38.Kc6 *(38.Nxa4 Kf7 39.d7 Ke7 40.Kc6 f5 41.Nb6 f4 42.Nd5+ Ke6)* 38...Kf7 39.d7 *(39.Nxa4 Ke6 40.d7 Kf5 41.d8Q Kf4 42.Qg8 Kg5 43.Qxg7+ Kf4)*]

34...Kc8 35.f5 Threatening mate with Kc4-b4. **35...Kd8**

(Diagram)

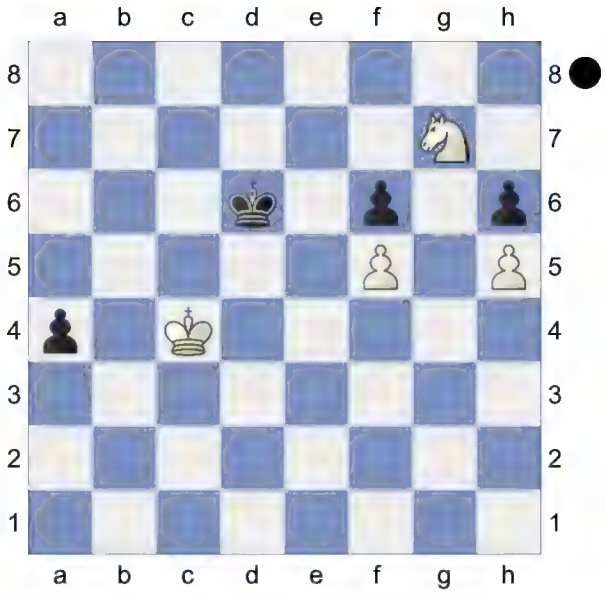


36.Ba5+ 12.59/29 **Rxa5** Endgame. KR-KN **37.Nb7+ Kd7 38.Nxa5** White wants to mate with Kc4-d5. **38...Kxd6** KN-KP **39.Kd4** White is clearly winning. **39...a6 40.Nb7+ Kc7**



41.Nc5 a5 42.Ne6+ Kd6 43.Nxg7 a4 44.Kc4

(Diagram)



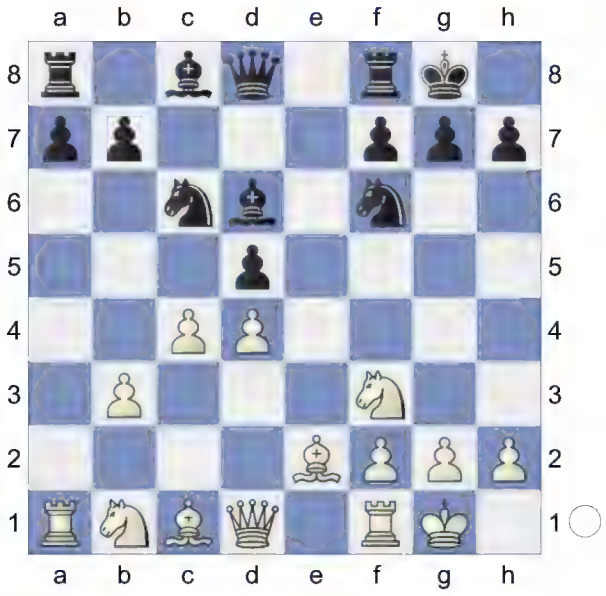
Weighted Error Value: White=0.63/ Black=0.94
1-0

19 **C01**
□ **Zayats71** **2723**
■ **Violet Pride** **2727**
Blitz 20.12.2023
[Kitty Kat]

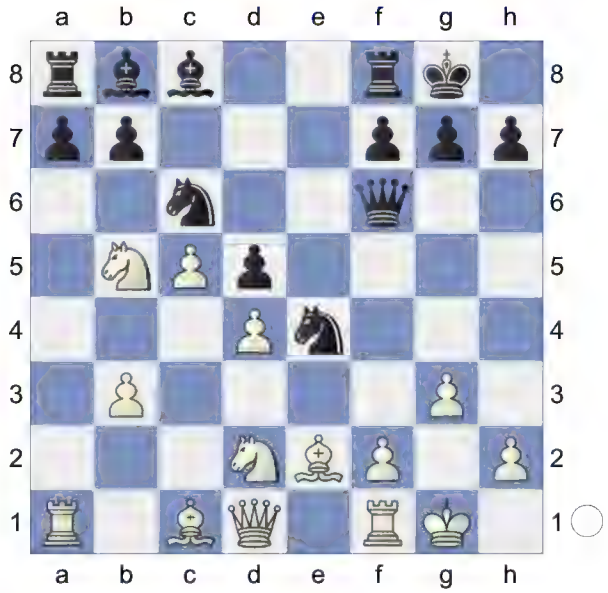
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.exd5 exd5 5.Nf3 c4

(Diagram)

6.Be2 Nf6 7.0-0 Bd6 8.b3
The position is equal. **8...cxb3 9.axb3 0-0 10.c4 Nc6**

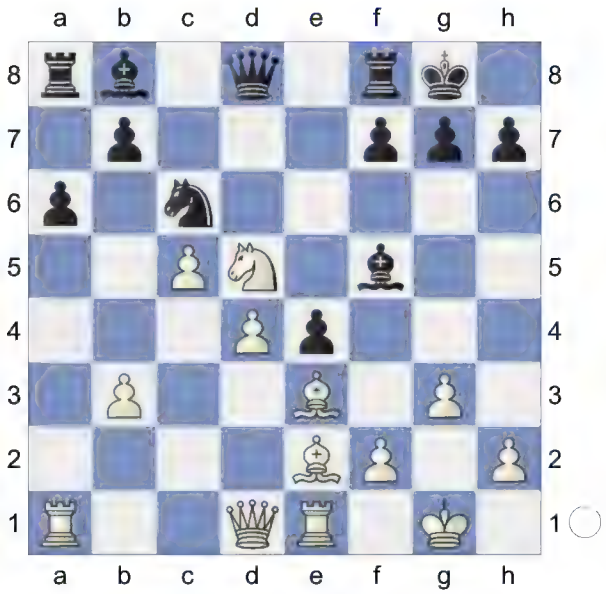


11.c5N
[11.Bg5 h6 12.Bh4 g5 13.Bg3 Bxg3 14.hxg3 dxc4 15.Bxc4 g4 16.Ne5 Nxd4 17.Qd2 Kg7 18.Rd1 Ne6 19.Qe2 Qe7 20.Nxg4 Nxg4 21.Qxg4+ Qg5 22.Qe4 Qf6 23.Ra5 Ng5 24.Qe3 Bg4 25.f3 Rfe8 ½-½ (40) Bartakke,A (1738)-Mitrabha,G (2466) IND-ch Rapid 2024 (1)]
[11.Nc3 Bb4 12.Bb2 Bg4 13.h3 Bh5 14.Ne5 Bxe2 15.Nxe2 dxc4 16.Nxc6 bxc6 17.bxc4 a5 18.Ng3 Qe7 19.Qf3 Qe6 20.Rfd1 Qxc4 21.d5 Nxd5 22.Bxg7 Kxg7 23.Rac1 Bc3 24.Ne4 Rae8 25.Nxc3 Qf4 ½-½ (29) Weissbeck,S (2568)-Mokrishchev (2521) Bundesliga 2005-6 2006 (9)]
[11.Na3 Re8 12.Nc2 h6 13.c5 Ne4 14.Bb2 Bc7 15.b4 Ne7 16.Re1 Ng6 17.g3 Bh3 18.Ne3 Qd7 19.Qb3 Rad8 20.Rxa7 Bb8 21.Raa1 Kh8 22.Rad1 Qe6 23.Bb5 Re7 24.Ne5 Bxe5 25.dxe5 Nh4 1-0 (44) Aswath,S (2364)-De Balmann,M (2167) Noisiel op 9th 2024 (4)]
11...Bc7 12.Nc3 Ne4 13.Nb5 Bb8 14.Nd2 Nd2xe4 would now be deadly.
14...Qh4 0.54/19
[14...Nf6= -0.03/17]
15.g3± Qf6

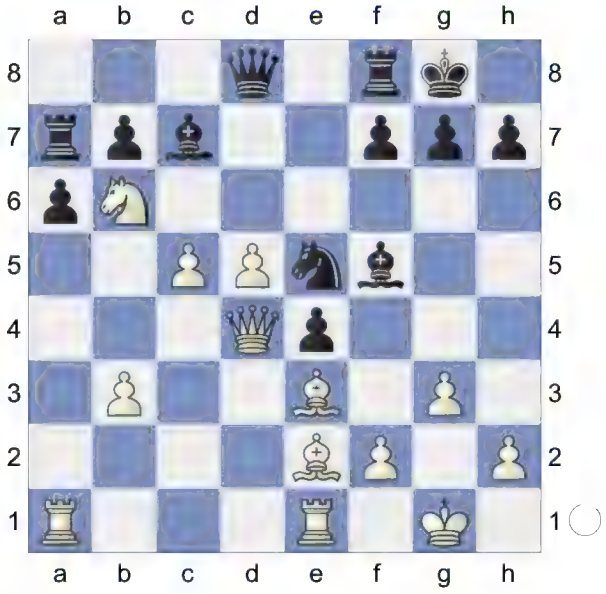


White leaves nothing to chance now.
16.Nxe4 dxe4 17.Be3 0.94/19
[⌓17.Ra4 1.35/20]
17...Bh3 18.Re1 0.75/19
[⌓18.d5 1.14/19 Bxf1 19.Bxf1]
18...a6 1.67/17
[18...Nb4± 0.75/19]

19.Nc3+- Bf5 2.88/20
[⌓19...Be6 1.67/18 20.Nxe4 Qg6]
20.Nd5 Qd8

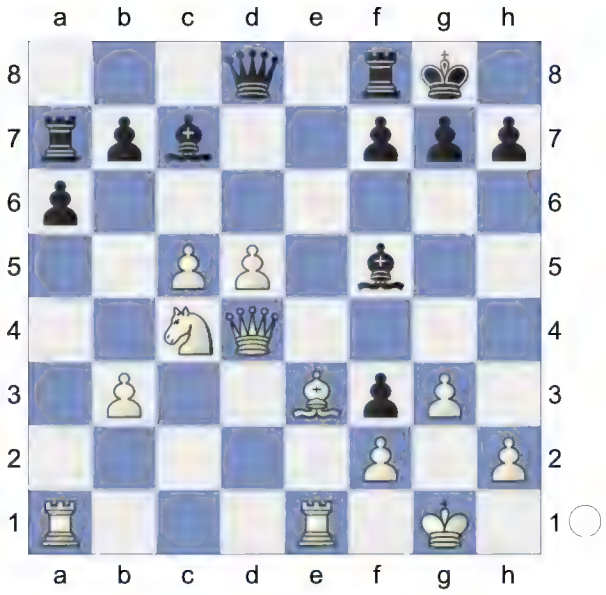


21.Nb6 Ra7 22.d5 Ne5 23.Qd4 Bc7? 4.67/20
[23...g6 2.52/17 keeps fighting. 24.d6 Re8]

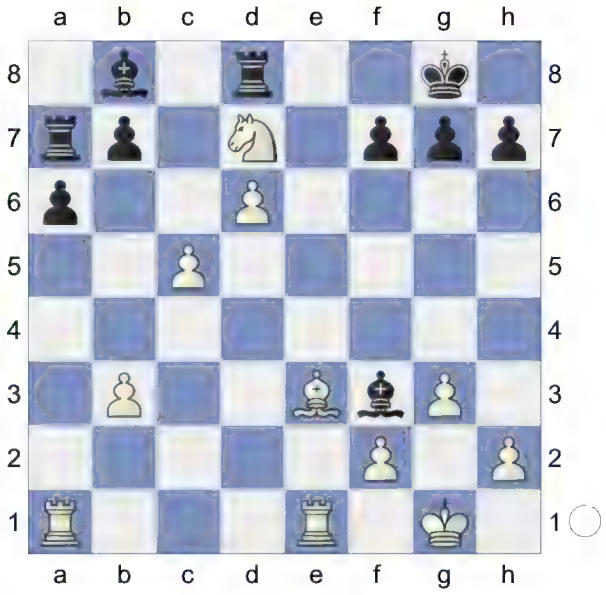


24.Nc4 Nf3+ 25.Bxf3 exf3

(Diagram)

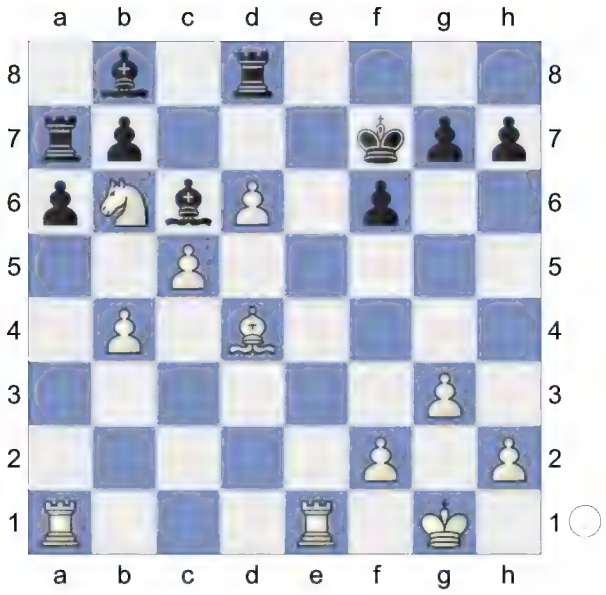


Black is weak on the dark squares **26.d6 Bb8 27.Qf4 Qd7** 7.61/21
[27...Be6 3.64/19 28.b4 *(28.Qxf3 a5+-)* 28...Bd5]
28.Qxf3 Bg4 29.Ne5 Bxf3 30.Nxd7 Rd8

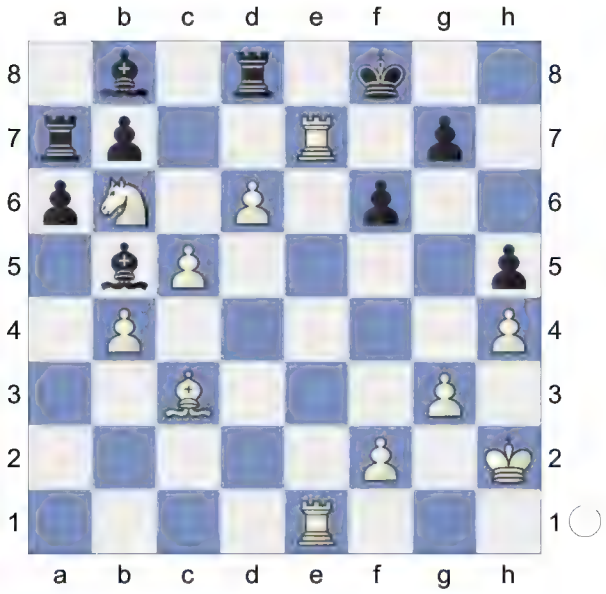


31.Ne5 Bc6 32.b4 f6 33.Nc4 Kf7 34.Bd4 Rd7 5.38/24
[⌓34...b5 3.81/19]
35.Nb6 White is clearly winning.
35...Rd8

(Diagram)

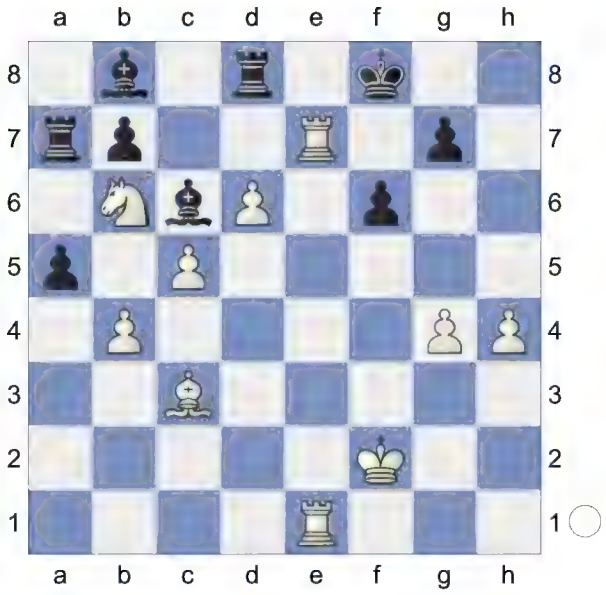


36.Re7+ Kf8 37.h4 h5 7.67/27
[⌓37...Bxd6 4.42/23 38.cxd6 Rxd6]
38.Bc3 Bb5 39.Rae1 Bc6 40.Kh2 Bb5

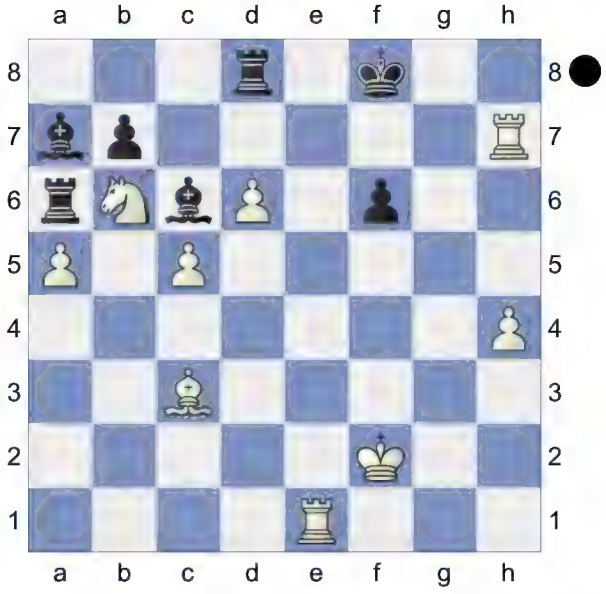


41.f3 Bc6 42.Kg2 Bb5 43.Kf2 Bc6 44.g4 hxg4 45.fxg4 a5

(Diagram)

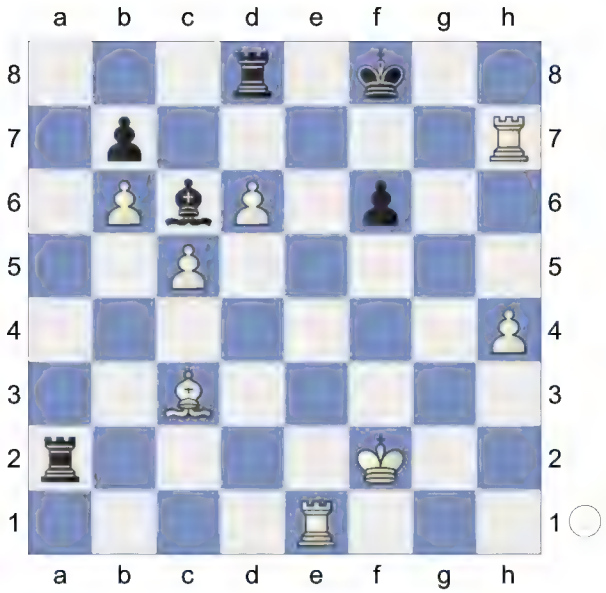


46.bxa5 Ra6 47.g5 Ba7 48.gxf6 gxf6 49.Rh7

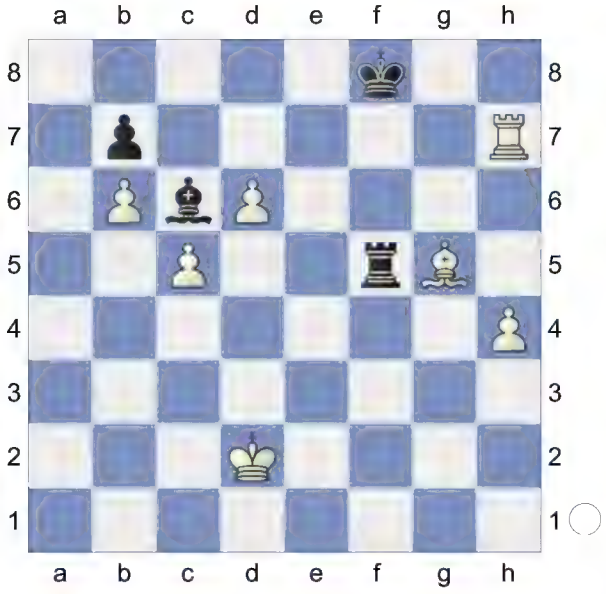


White wants to mate with Re1-e7.
49...Bxb6 50.axb6 Ra2+

(Diagram)

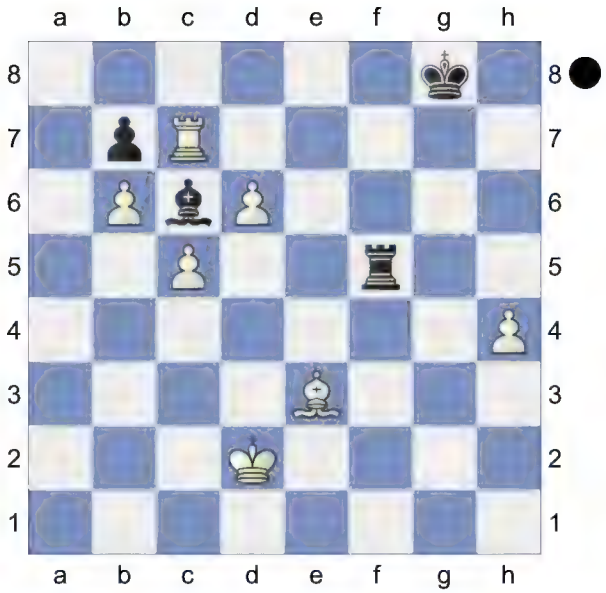


51.Re2 Rxe2+ 52.Kxe2 Threatens to win with Rh7-h8+. KRB-KRB **52...Re8+ 53.Kd2 Re4 54.Bxf6 Rf4 55.Bg5 Rf5**



56.Be3 Kg8 57.Rc7

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.68/ Black=0.43
1-0

20	**C01**
□ **Uppitywoopity**	**2901**
■ **Zhao4000**	**2726**
Blitz	16.08.2023
[Kitty Kat]	

C01: French: Exchange Variation
https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'Welcome to 22nd Abu Dhabi Masters, an on the other side of the ring with black is number 16 woman in the world at the time, Dronavalli Harika. Sadly for Harika, Onischuk is about to blow her off the board with a 97.3% accuracy.'
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

(Diagram)

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5 The position is equal. **9.Nc3 Be7**

[9...Bb4 is interesting. 10.Ndb5 Qa5 11.Be2 a6]

10.Qe2 0-0

[10...Nxf3+ 11.gxf3 Qa5 12.Qb5+ Qxb5 13.Ndxb5 Kd8 14.Bxa7 Bd7 15.0-0-0 Kc8 16.a3 Nd5 17.Be3 Nxc3 18.Nxc3 Bc6 19.Ne4 Rd8 20.Rhg1 Rxd1+ 21.Kxd1 g6 22.Bg5 Kd7 23.Ke2 Ra4 24.Rd1+ Ke8 25.Nf6+ 1-0 (36) Rogov,M (2291)-Atoyan,A (2133) Titled Tuesday intern op 26th Nov Late blitz 2024 (6)]

(Diagram)

11.0-0-0 Nxf3 12.Qxf3 Hoping for Nd4xe6! **12...Qc7**

[12...Bd7 13.g4 Qa5 14.g5 Nd5 15.Nf5 Nxc3 16.Nxe7+ Kh8 17.Bd2 Nxa2+ 18.Kb1 Qd8 19.Bf4 Qxe7 20.Bd6 Qe8 21.Rhe1 Rg8 22.Rd4 Bc6 23.Qh5 f6 24.g6 h6 25.Bf4 e5 26.Bxh6 Bf3 27.Bxg7+ 1-0 (31) Onischuk,V (2618)-Harika,D (2509) Abu Dhabi op 23rd 2015 (3)]

13.g4N

[13.Ndb5 Qa5 14.a3 Bd7 15.Rxd7 Nxd7 16.Qxb7 Bf6 17.Qxd7 Rfd8 18.Qb7 Rab8 19.Qxa7 Rxb5 20.Qxa5 Rxa5 21.Bb6 6. 3...dxe4 Part II-9...Be7 #6]

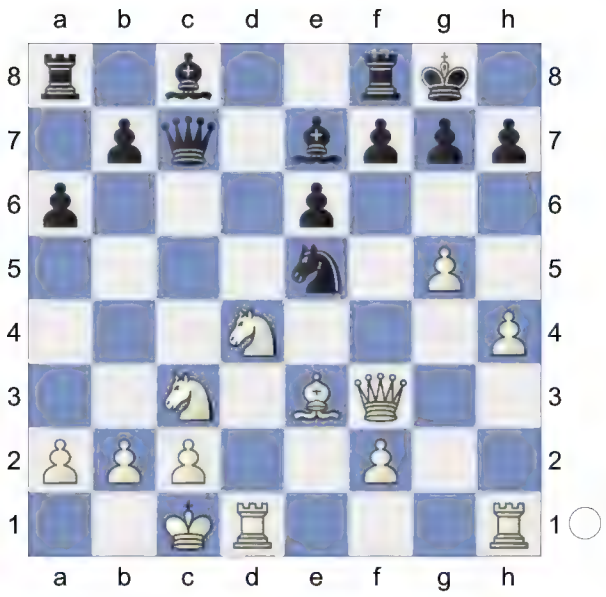
13...a6 0.55/21

[13...Rd8= -0.03/18]

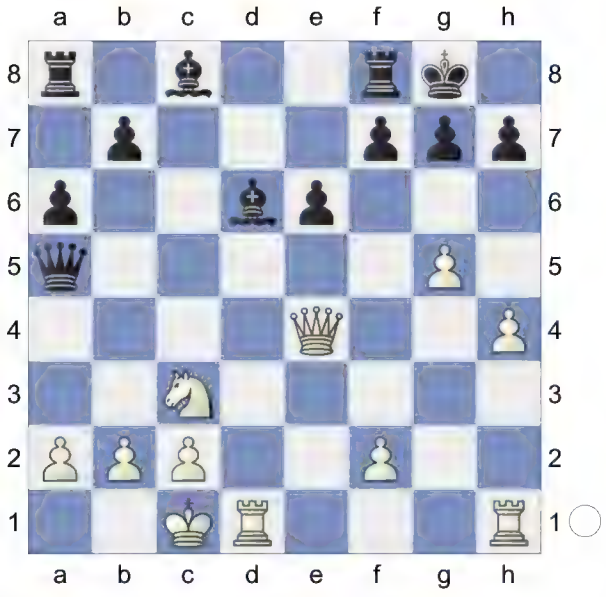
14.g5± Strongly threatening Be3-f4!

14...Nd7 15.h4 Ne5

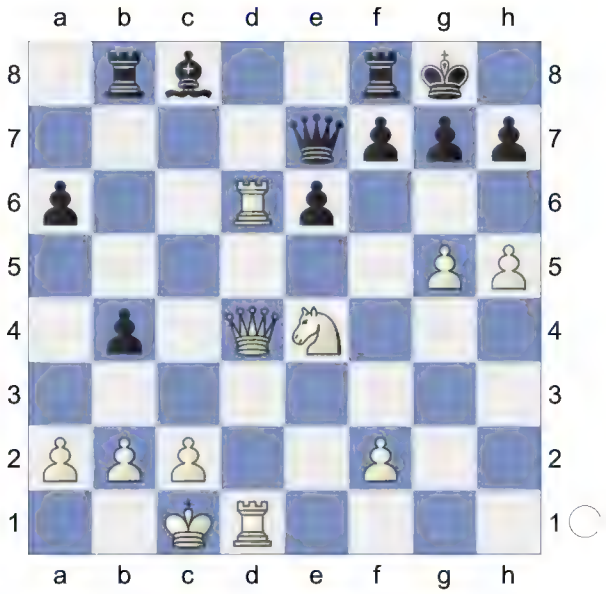
(Diagram)



16.Qe4 Nc4 17.Bf4! Qb6 1.08/22
[17...Nd6± 0.59/20 is superior. 18.Qf3 Re8]
18.Nb3!± Na5 1.69/19
[18...Qc6± 1.09/22]
19.Nxa5+- Qxa5 20.Bd6 Bxd6



21.Rxd6 Qc7 1.64/22 Black is weak on the dark squares
[21...Qf5± 1.23/18]
22.Rhd1 Rb8 1.92/22
[22...Qc5± 1.41/20 might work better. 23.Rd8 e5 24.Rxf8+ Qxf8]
23.Qd4 b5 2.45/21
[23...b6 1.79/21 was necessary. 24.f4 Qc5]
24.h5! Threatens to win with h5-h6.
24...b4? 4.76/22
[24...Qe7 1.91/21 25.Qe3 *(25.Ne4 e5+-)* 25...f6]
25.Ne4 2.53/20
[⌓25.h6 4.76/22 f5 26.gxf6]
25...Qe7? 11.01/24
[25...b3 2.53/20 26.axb3 Qa5]

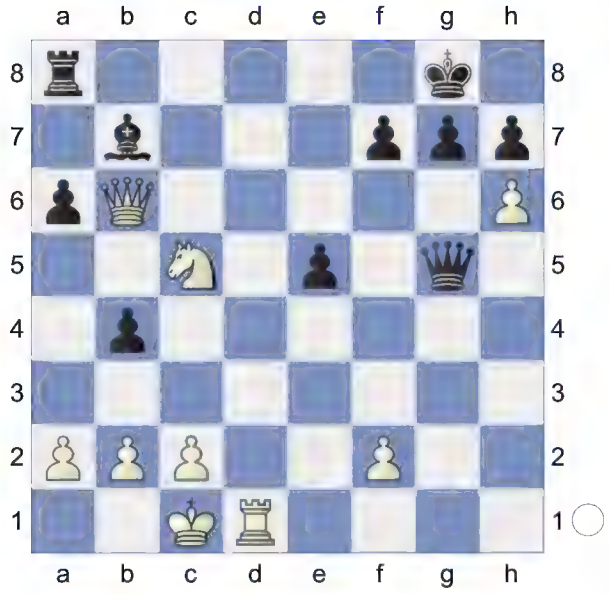


26.Rd8? 2.51/26
[26.Nf6+ 11.01/24 Kh8 27.Rd8 *(27.Ne4 e5±)*]
26...Bb7? 9.43/24
[26...Rxd8 2.51/26 27.Qxd8+ Qf8 28.Qxf8+ *(28.h6 Bb7±)* 28...Kxf8 29.Rd8+ Ke7]
27.Rxb8? 3.05/23
[27.h6 e5 28.Rxf8+ Rxf8=]
[27.Nf6+ 9.43/24 gxf6 28.gxf6 Rfxd8 29.Qg4+ *(29.fxe7? Rxd4 30.Rxd4 Re8-+)* 29...Kf8 30.fxe7+ Kxe7 31.Qxb4+ Ke8 32.Rxd8+ Deflection Rxd8 33.Qxb7]
27...Rxb8 28.h6 e5 29.Qb6 Ra8
30.Nc5 0.12/20
[White must play 30.Nf6+!+- 2.81/23

gxf6 31.gxf6]

30...Qxg5+? 2.13/22

[30...Bf3= 0.12/20 31.Rg1 a5]



31.f4! Qxf4+

[31...exf4 32.Qxb7]

32.Kb1 Bd5

[32...Qxh6 33.Rd8+ Rxd8 34.Qxd8#]

33.b3? 0.01/24

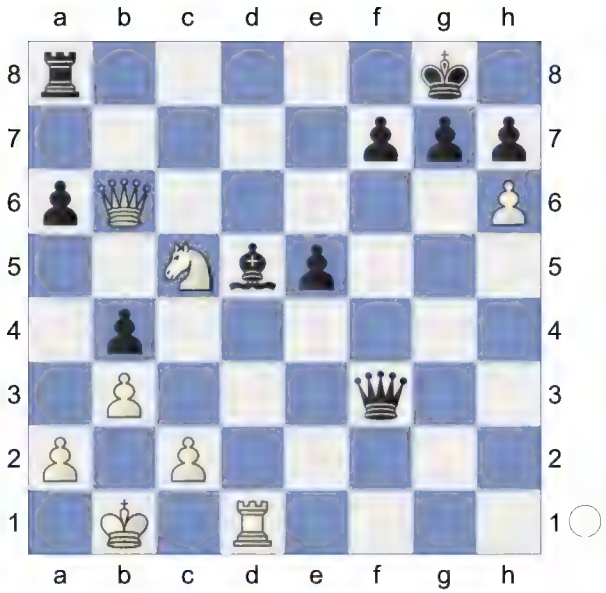
[33.Qd6+- 2.42/22 Qxh6 34.Qxd5]

33...Qf3 0.99/22

[33...Qxh6? 34.Qxh6 *(34.Qxb4? Bf3-+)* 34...gxh6 35.Rxd5+-]

[33...Qh4= 0.01/24 keeps the balance.]

(Diagram)



34.Rc1 -0.32/19

[White should try 34.Rd3!± 0.99/22 Qg2 35.Qd6]

34...gxh6? 3.81/23

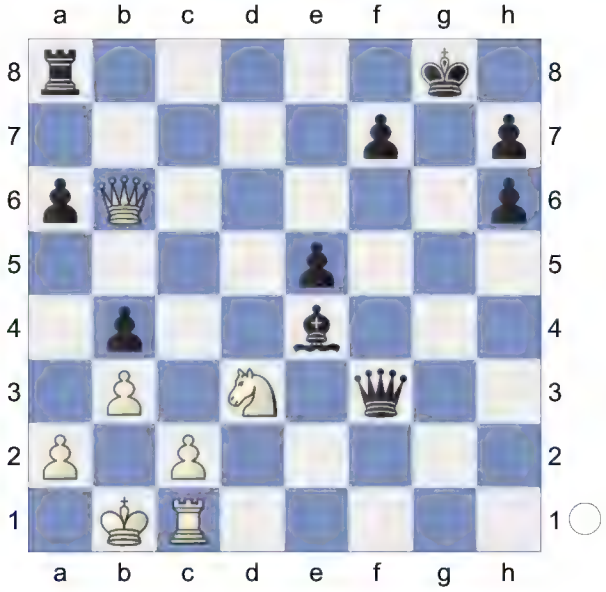
[34...Qg4∓ -0.32/19 keeps the upper hand.]

35.Nd3? -1.26/21

[Less strong is 35.Rg1+ Kh8±]

[35.Nd7+- 3.81/23 Be4 36.Nf6+ *(36.Qf6 Qc3=)* 36...Kg7 37.Nxe4]

35...Be4∓



36.Qxb4 -2.59/22

[36.Nxb4∓ -1.18/20 a5 37.Nd5

Bxc2+ *(37...Bxd5 38.Rg1+ Kh8 39.Qxh6=)* 38.Kxc2 Qxd5 39.Rg1+ Kf8 40.Qxh6+ Ke8 *(40...Ke7 41.Qh4+ Kf8 42.Qh6+ Ke7 43.Qh4+ Kd6 44.Qf6+ Kc7 45.Rg5∓)* 41.Rg8+ Kd7 42.Qh3+ Kc7 43.Qxh7]

36...Bxd3-+ 37.cxd3 Qxd3+ 38.Ka1 Kh8 39.Rb1? -3.75/21

[39.Qb7 -2.00/19 was worth a try. Rf8 40.Qe7 Qd4+ 41.Kb1]

39...Qd4+

Weighted Error Value: White=0.96/ Black=0.64

0-1

21 **C01**

□ **Uppitywoopity** **2862**

■ **Otsz** **2689**

Blitz 17.08.2023

[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.exd5 exd5 5.Bb5+

[5.dxc5 Bxc5 6.Nf3 Nf6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc3 Nc6 9.Bg5 Be6 10.Qd2 Re8 11.a3 h6 12.Bh4 Be7 13.Rfe1 a6 14.Rad1 Qb6 15.Qc1 Rad8 16.h3 Rd7 17.Rd2 Nh5 18.Rxe6 fxe6 19.Bg6 Rf8 ½-½ (42) Deac,B (2575)-Marin,M (2543) ROM-ch Olanesti 2018 (5)]

[5.Nf3 c4 6.Be2 Nf6 7.0-0 Bd6 8.b3 cxb3 9.axb3 0-0 10.c4 Nc6 11.Nc3 Bb4 12.Bb2 Bg4 13.h3 Bh5 14.Ne5 Bxe2 15.Nxe2 dxc4 16.Nxc6 bxc6 17.bxc4 a5 18.Ng3 Qe7 19.Qf3 Qe6 ½-½ (29) Stukopin,A (2568)-Matsenko,S (2521) Southwest op 85th 2019 (9)]

5...Nc6

6.Nf3 Nf6 7.Nc3N

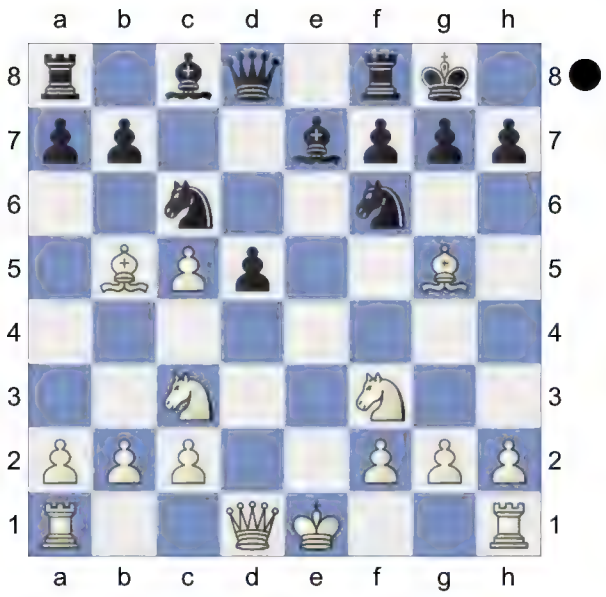
[7.0-0 Be7 8.dxc5 Bxc5 9.Bg5 0-0 10.Bxf6 Qxf6 11.Qxd5 Qxb2 12.Qxc5 Qxa1 13.Bd3 Qxa2 14.Bxh7+ Kxh7 15.Qxf8 f6 16.Re1 Qg8 Exd5 Exd5-5.Bd3 c5 6.Bb5+ #1]

7...Be7 8.dxc5 The position is equal.

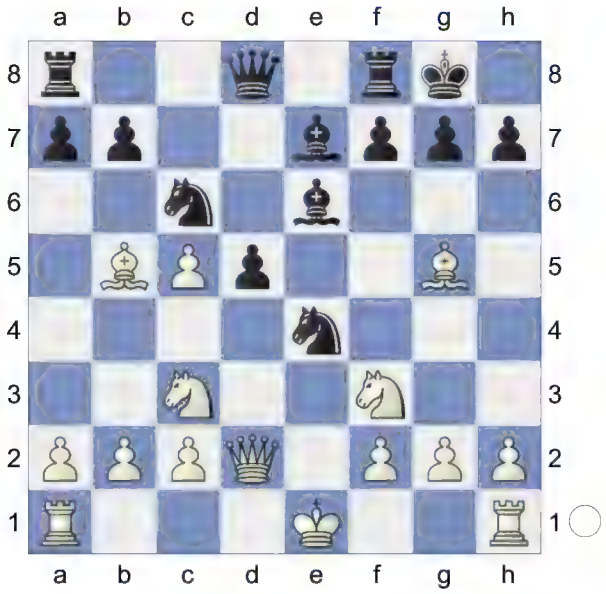
8...0-0 9.Bg5 -0.89/20

[9.0-0= -0.01/18 keeps the balance.]

(Diagram)

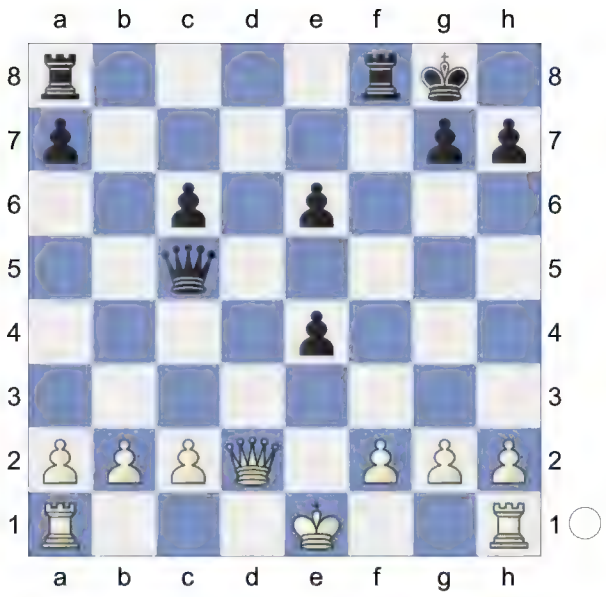


9...Be6 0.11/18
[9...d4!∓ -0.89/20 10.Bxc6 dxc3 11.Qxd8 Rxd8]
10.Qd2= Ne4

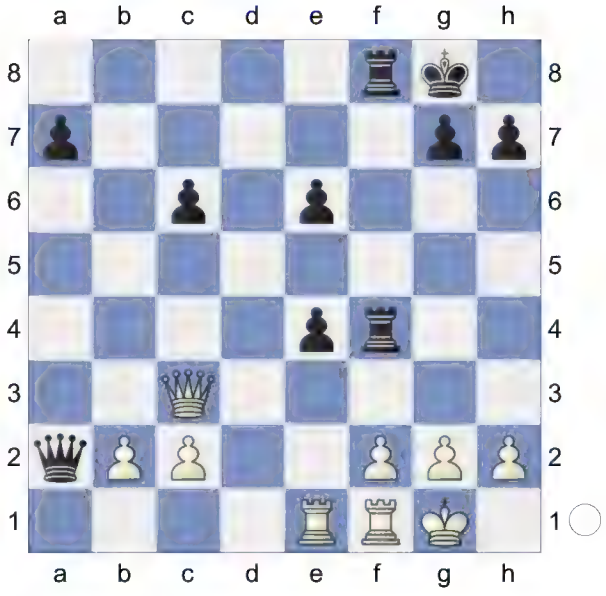


11.Nxe4 dxe4 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.Bxc6 bxc6 14.Nd4 Qxc5 15.Nxe6 fxe6

(Diagram)

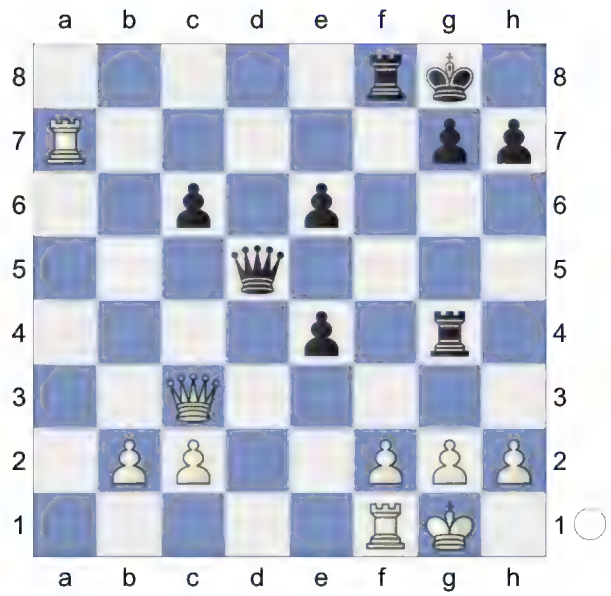


16.0-0 Rad8 17.Qe2 Rf4 18.Rae1 0.51/20
[White should play 18.g3± 0.88/21 Rf6 19.Rab1 *(19.Qxe4 Rd2=)*]
18...Rdf8 19.Qd2 Qd5 20.Qc3 Qxa2 0.86/21
[20...h5± 0.39/19]

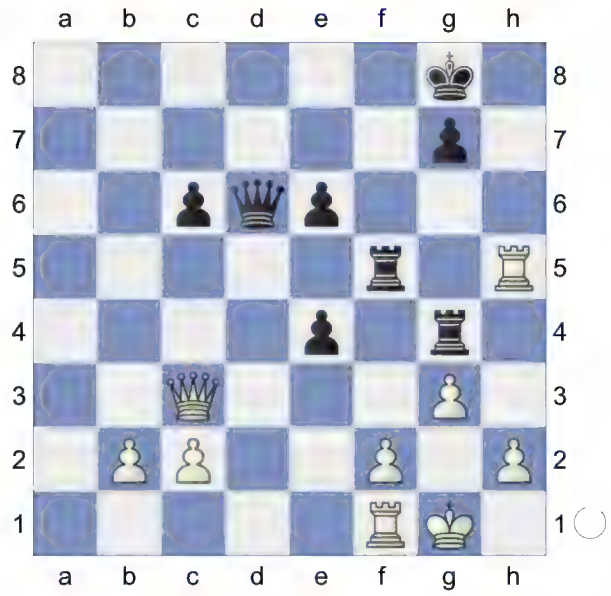


21.Ra1 0.47/19
[21.b3± 0.86/21 Qa6 22.Qe5]
21...Qd5!±
[21...Rxf2? 22.Rfd1+- *(22.Rxa2? Rxf1#; 22.Rxa2? Rxf1#)*]

22.Rxa7 Rg4 1.05/21
[22...Qg5± 0.43/20]

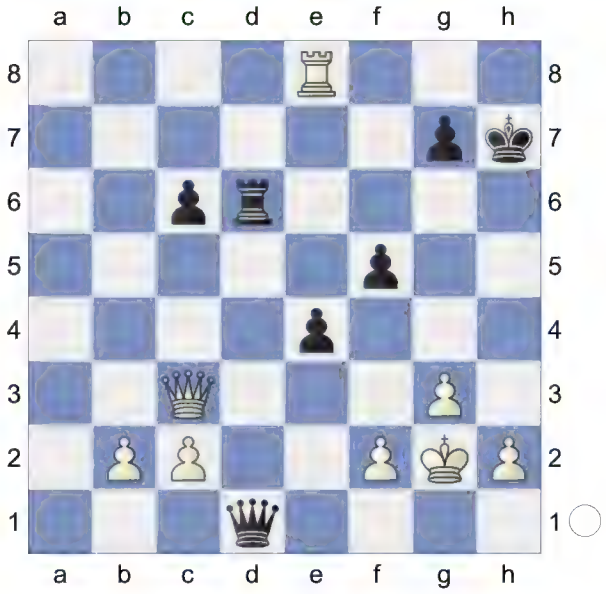


23.g3 0.35/21
[23.Ra5!± 1.05/21 Qd7 24.Qc4]
23...h5 1.39/20
[23...Rf3± 0.35/21 24.Ra8+ Kf7 25.Ra7+ Kg8]
24.Ra5± White is more active. **24...Qd6**
25.Rxh5 0.98/21
[⌓25.Qe5 1.46/21 Qxe5 26.Rxe5]
25...Rf5



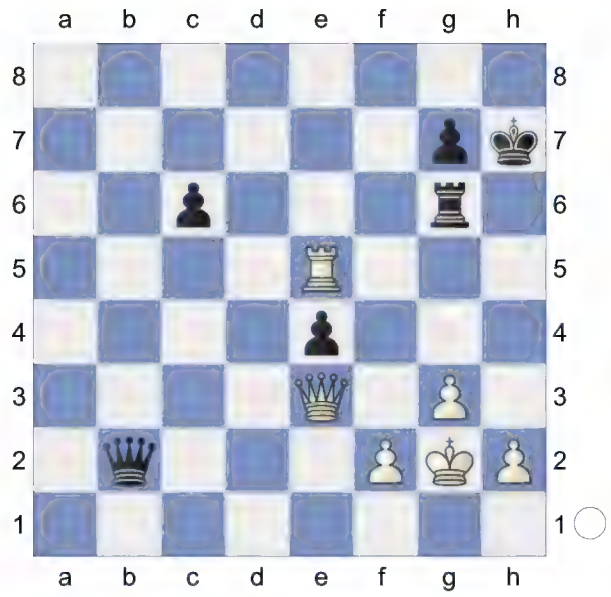
26.Rxf5 exf5 Endgame. KQR-KQR

27.Ra1 Rg6 28.Ra8+ Kh7 Hoping for ... Qd6-d1+. **29.Re8**
[29.Qe1 simplifies Qe5 30.Ra5 Qxb2 31.Rxf5 Qxc2 32.Re5]
29...Qd1+ 30.Kg2 Rd6 1.16/22
[Black should try 30...Qh5 0.74/22]

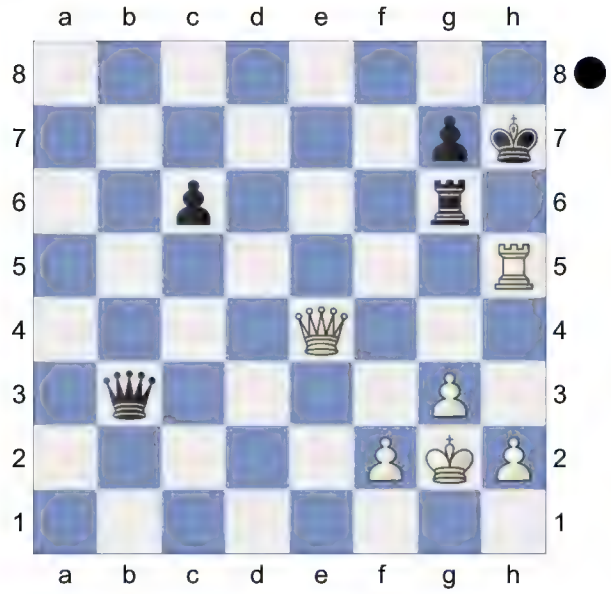


31.Re7 Rg6 1.50/21
[⌓31...Qd4 1.02/22]
32.Re5 Rg5 2.84/24 This costs Black the game.
[32...Rf6± 1.35/23 33.Re7 c5]
33.Qe3+-
[33.Qxc6 Qf3+ 34.Kf1 Rxg3 *(34...Qd1+ 35.Kg2=)* 35.hxg3 Qh1+ 36.Ke2 Qf3+ 37.Ke1 Qh1+ 38.Ke2 Qf3+ 39.Ke1 Qh1+ 40.Ke2=]
33...Rg6 34.Rxf5 Qxc2 35.Re5 Dodges Rg6-e6 **35...Qxb2?** 13.31/24
[35...Rf6 2.62/22 36.Qxe4+ Qxe4+ 37.Rxe4 c5]

(Diagram)



36.Qxe4 Intending Re5-h5+ and mate.
[Not 36.Rxe4 Qc2 37.Re5 Rd6 38.Rh5+ Rh6±]
36...Qb3 37.Rh5+



Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.52
1-0

22 **C01**
□ **Onischuk,V** **2609**
■ **Bluebaum,Matthias** **2646**
Titled Tue 8th Oct Late (4) 08.10.2024
[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

We're gonna fast forward a few year and bunch of wins to 2024. A rematch with Bluebaum, so let's see how it went.
C01: French: Exchange Variation
Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**

6.Ne2 Be7 7.Nbc3 0-0 8.d5 exd5 Black has an edge. **9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6**

(Diagram)

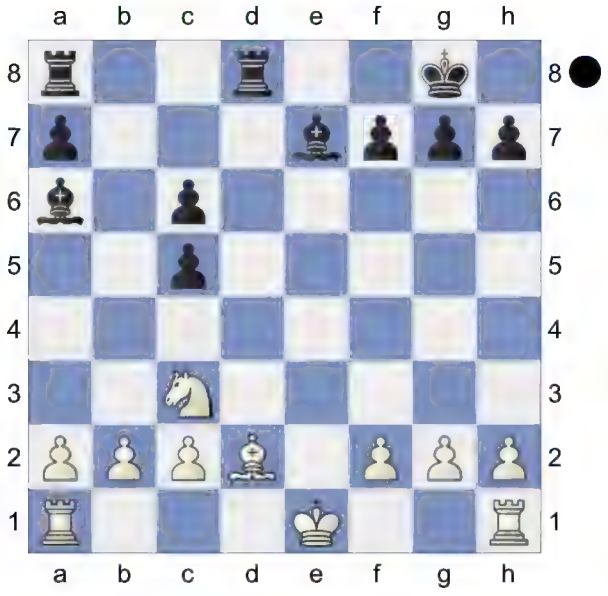
11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 0.13/20

[⌓13...Bh4 -0.28/19 14.Ng3 Bg4]

14.Nc3?! -0.38/21

[14.0-0-0!!]

[White should try 14.0-0-0= 0.13/20]



I've explained why this is wrong, we are just following the game he played with Bluebaum currently. **14...Rxd2!∓** Bluebaum repeated this brilliancy, so let's see if he improved it. Remove Defender **15.Kxd2 Bg5+**

16.f4! Bxf4+ A strong pair of Bishops.

17.Ke1 Be3N And he did. If you remember, here in the last game they've played, Bluebaum made a mistake and played f5. Black has compensation.

[17...f5 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 Bc4 20.b3 Ba6 21.Kd1 Bf2 22.Ne2 Re8 23.c4 Bc8 24.Rd6 f4 25.Rf1 Be3 26.Nxf4 Bg4+ 27.Kc2 Bf5+ 28.Nd3 Bg6 29.Re1 Re4 30.Rxg6 hxg6 31.Nxc5 Re7 32.Nd3 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4)]

18.Rd1 Re8 19.Rd7 h5?? 0.98/24 But sadly he didn't know that he should've played c4 here to protect a7. Now Rxa7 is winning.

[19...c4!= I've explained this move in the previous game against Bluebaum.]

[19...c4!= -0.01/23 remains equal.]

20.h3?? -0.01/22 But Onischuk doesn't play it. No idea why, it was so logical.

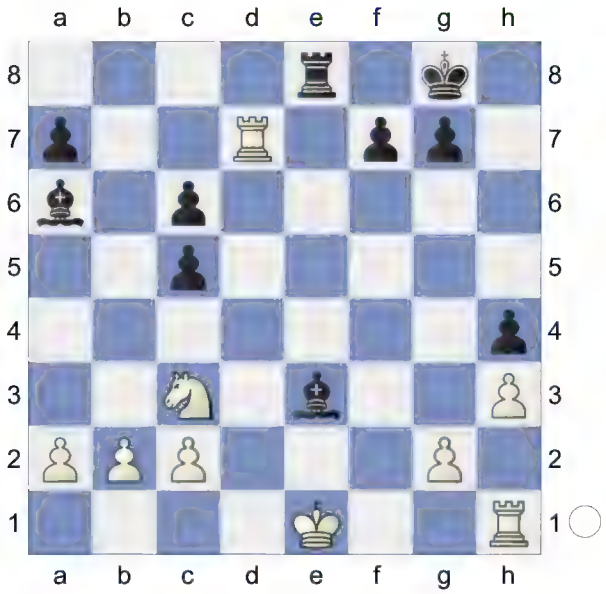
[20.Rxa7 Bc4 21.Ra4 Be6! 22.Re4! This is now much better for white as he pins the bishop to the rook and attacks the other rook.]

[20.Rxa7± 0.98/24 Bc8 21.Nd1 Bg5+ 22.Kf2]

20...h4? 0.56/23

[20...Bc1+ This is a draw, as after 21.Kd1 Bxb2 22.Na4! Bf6 Threatens to win with ...Re8-b8. 23.Rxa7 Be2+ 24.Kc1 Bd4= the pawn is protected and white's structure is extremely awful and his rook on h1 is extremely passive.]

[20...Bc4= -0.01/22]



This is a mistake now because of Rxa7 again which doesn't happen for whatever reason. **21.Kd1?** -0.01/25

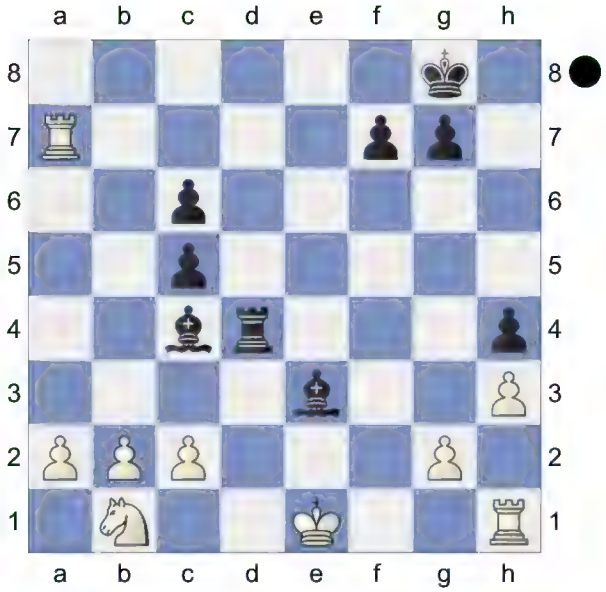
[21.Rxa7 Bc4 22.Ra4± Not gonna go over this again as it's the same thing, same reason why it's better for white.]

[21.Rxa7± 0.56/23 Bc8 22.Ra8]

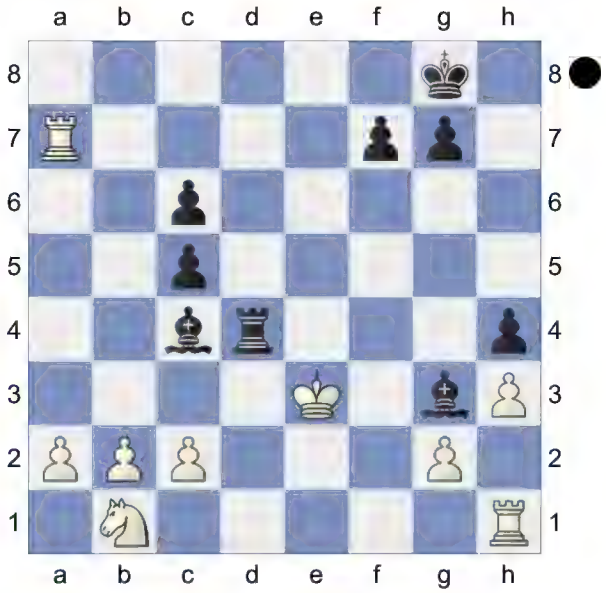
21...Bf2?? 1.59/22 Now Rxa7 is winning again.

[21...Bc4! This is the only move for a draw. After

A) 22.Rxa7?? -1.29/25 22.Rh1-e1 0.01 This blunders Rd8+! 23.Ke1 Rd4 and the threat is Bd2+ which would let black get rid of the pawns on the king side and have 3 on 0 and already a pawn that's on the 3rd rank. 24.Nb1



Prevents Be3-d2+ Bf4! 25.Kf2 -1.31/23 (⌓25.Ra3 -0.94/23) 25...Bg3+∓ 26.Ke3



Bd5!∓ and black's pieces are now too active and white's king is too unsafe.;

B) 22.Re1 f5! 23.a4 f4 24.a5 a6 25.Rd6 Re5 26.Rd8+ Kf7 27.b3 Be6= and it's equal as both players are extremely active and 2 bishops

show their true strenght over the rooks.]

[Black should play 21...f5= -0.01/25]

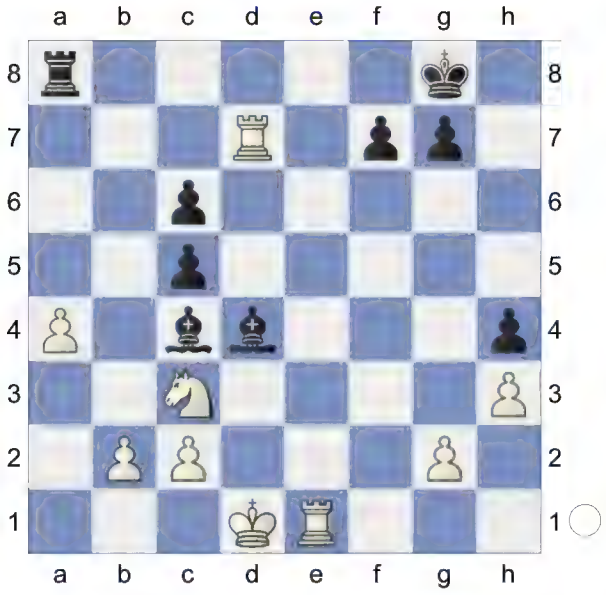
22.Rxa7!± Finally. Now for a long time there is just things that could've been done more perfect, there is no reason to go over every specific detail as there isn't anything that puts any of the players on the edge except for 1 specific variation. **22...Bc4 23.a4** 0.74/22

[23.Ra4+- 1.67/21 is more deadly. Rd8+ 24.Kc1]

23...Be3 24.Rd7 Inhibits Re8-d8. Hoping for Rh1-e1. **24...Bd4** 1.72/23

[24...f5± 0.69/22]

25.Re1+- Ra8



26.Re4 1.00/23

[26.Kd2+- 2.02/22]

26...Be6 1.87/22

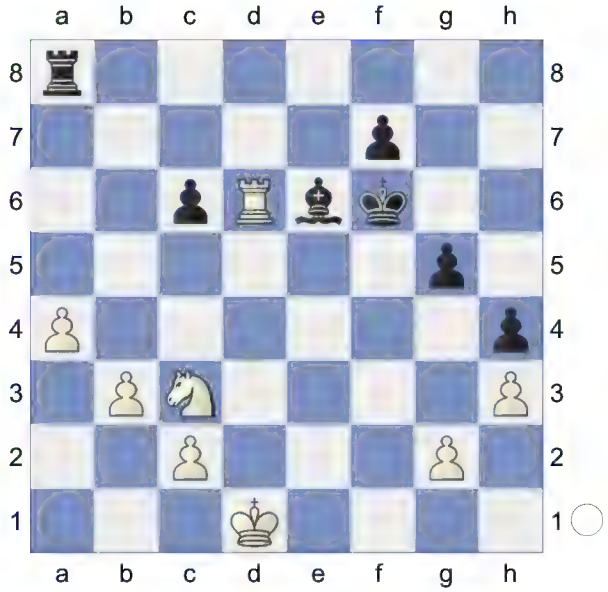
[26...Bf1± 1.00/23]

27.Rdxd4!! Onischuk gives the rook back for the bishop just like in his previous game against Bluebaum. **27...cxd4 28.Rxd4** Endgame. KRB-KRN **28...g5 29.b3 Kg7 30.Rd6** 1.33/21

[Better is 30.Ne4+- 1.92/22 Kg6 31.Nc5]

30...Kf6 2.75/22

[30...Rc8± 1.33/21 31.Kc1 Kf6]



This move loses the game for Black. **31.Rxc6 Ke5 32.Ke2 f5 33.Rc5+ Kd4?** 4.25/21

[33...Kf4 1.84/21 34.Kf2 Rb8]

34.b4 Nc3-b5+ is the strong threat. **34...Bc4+ 35.Kd2 Be6**

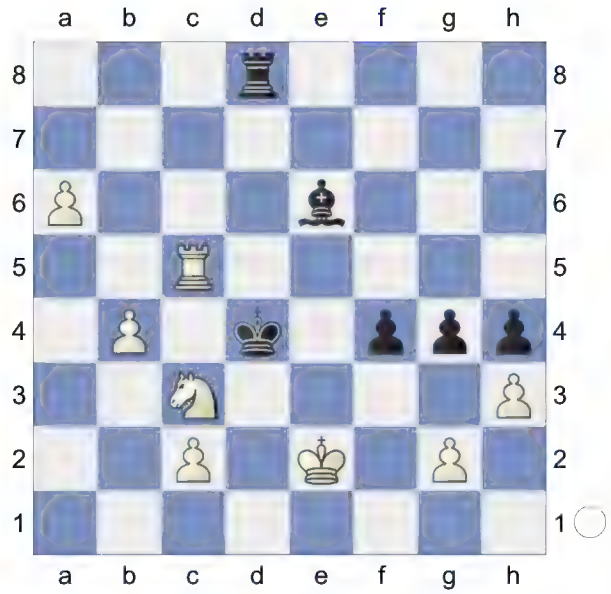
36.Nb5+ Ke4 37.Ke2

[37.Nc7 Rd8+ 38.Ke1 Bg8]

37...Rd8 38.a5 g4 39.a6 f4 40.Nc3+? 2.99/5

[40.a7 7.74/24 f3+ 41.gxf3+ gxf3+ 42.Kf2]

40...Kd4



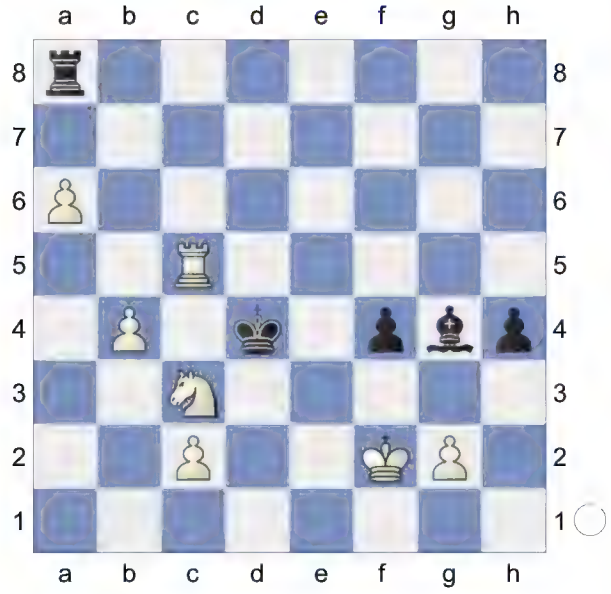
41.hxg4? 1.97/21

[41.Kf2 5.94/21]

41...Bxg4+? 9.99/21

[41...Bc4+ 1.97/21 42.Kd2 Bxa6]

42.Kf2 Ra8



43.a7! Be6

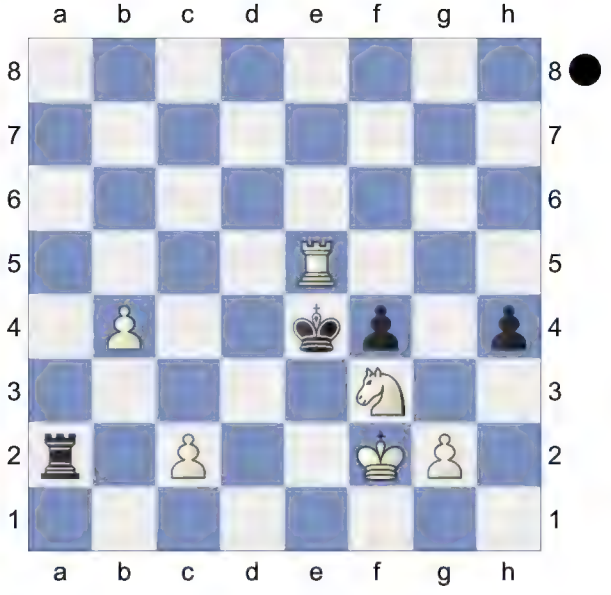
[43...Rg8 44.Nb5+]

44.Nb5+ Ke4 45.Nc7 White mates.

45...Rxa7

(Diagram)

46.Nxe6 Ra2 47.Ng5+ Kd4 48.Nf3+ Ke4 49.Re5#

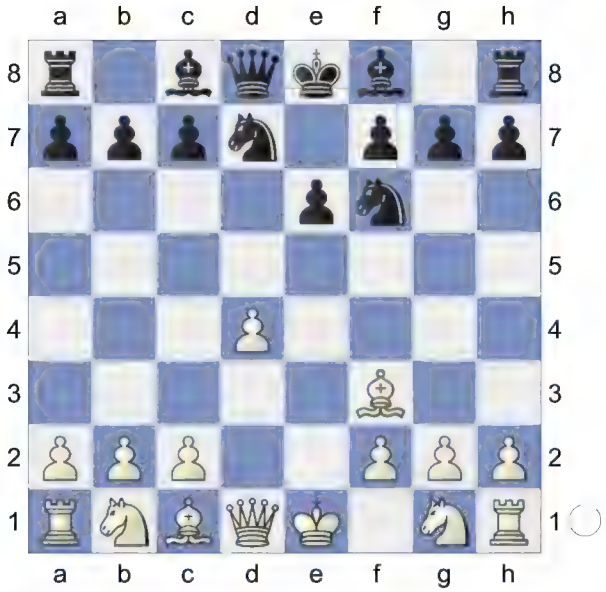


And Bluebaum gets checkmated. He never really stood a chance, he tried again to play for the same thing he did 4 years ago but didn't manage to put it to perfection in the only variation that was a draw sadly and Onischuk punished that (allthough it took him some time). Not a lot of analysis in this game, just purely watching how Onischuk proves that Bluebaum doesn't understand Schlechter once again.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.57/ Black=0.65
1-0

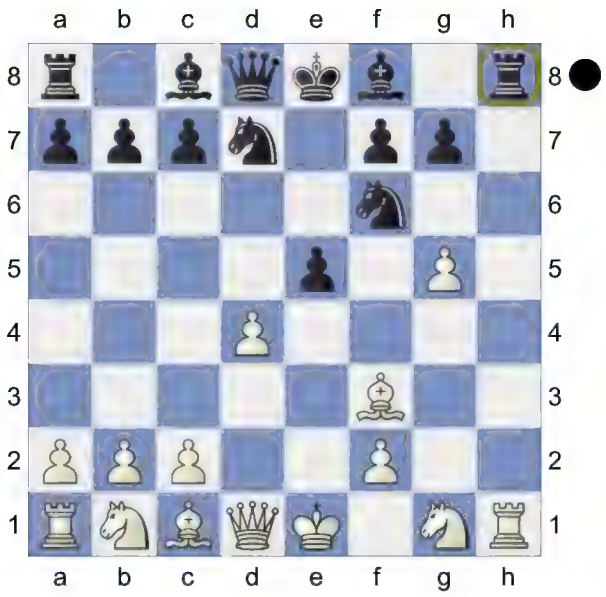
23 **C01**
□ **Uppitywoopity** **2872**
■ **Blackboarder** **2659**
Blitz 16.08.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Nbd7

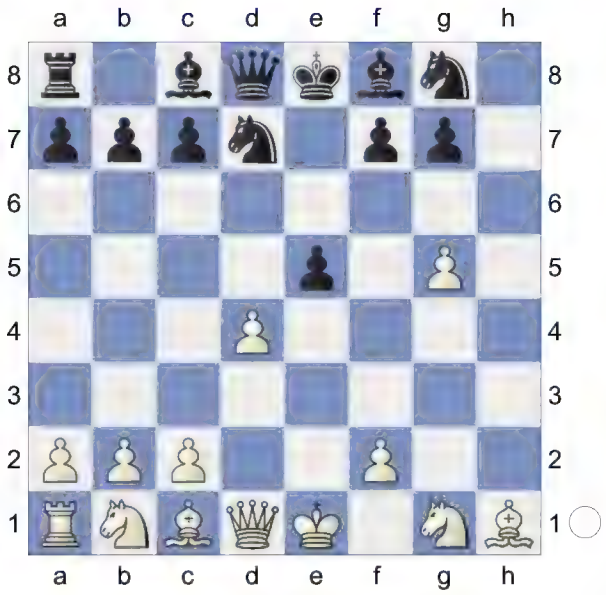


6.g4N
[6.Ne2 Bd6 *(6...e5 7.0-0 Bd6 8.Nbc3 0-0 9.Bg5 h6 10.Bh4 Re8 11.Ne4 Be7 12.Bxf6 Bxf6* Chapter-Games Chapter 1 Game 6*)* 7.Be3 *(7.Nbc3 0-0 8.Nb5 Bb4+ 9.c3 Ba5 10.Bf4 c6 11.Nd6 Bc7 12.Nc4 Bxf4 13.Nxf4 Qc7 14.Nd3 b6 15.Qd2 Ba6 16.Nce5 Bxd3 17.Nxd3 Rad8 18.0-0 e5 19.Qe2 exd4 20.cxd4 Rfe8 21.Qc2 Nb8* ½-½ (41) Ollenberger,R (2267)-Pfreundt,J (2413) Lienz op 21st 2023 (9) *)* 7...e5 8.Nbc3 0-0 9.Qd2 *(9.d5 Nb6 10.h3 Bf5 11.g4 e4 12.Bg2 Bg6 13.Bg5 Re8 14.0-0 h6 15.Bh4 Bh7 16.Re1 Bc5 17.Nd4 g5 18.Bg3 Nbxd5 19.Nb3 Bf8 20.Qd4 Nb4 21.Re2 c6 22.Be5 Qxd4 23.Bxd4 Nfd5* 1-0 (58) Baburin,A (2527)-Juarez Flores,C (2391) Olympiad-36 Mallorca 2004 (5) *)* 9...Qe8 10.Ng3 exd4 11.Qxd4 Bc5 12.Qd2 Ne5 13.Be2 Bb4 14.0-0 Bg4 15.Qd4 c5 16.Qf4 Ng6 17.Qc7 Bxc3 18.bxc3 Bxe2 19.Nxe2 Nd5 20.Qxc5 Nxe3 0-1 (57) Kaenel,H (1840)-Majoral Marco,J (2362) EU-chT (Men) 16th 2007 (2)]
[6.Nc3 Bd6 7.Nb5 Bb4+ 8.c3 a6 9.Nxc7+ Qxc7 10.cxb4 e5 11.Nh3 e4 12.Be2 Nd5 13.Bd2 N7f6 14.Rc1 Qd6 15.Qb3 0-0 16.Qg3 Qb6 6) Odds and Ends-The Schlechter Variation The Aggressive French 2024]
6...h6 7.h4 e5 0.28/18
[⌓7...c5 -0.10/16]
8.g5= White has an edge. **8...hxg5** 0.59/20
[8...exd4= 0.15/16 9.Qe2+ *(9.gxf6 Qxf6 10.Bg2 Bb4+ 11.c3 dxc3±)* 9...Be7]
9.hxg5±

(Diagram)



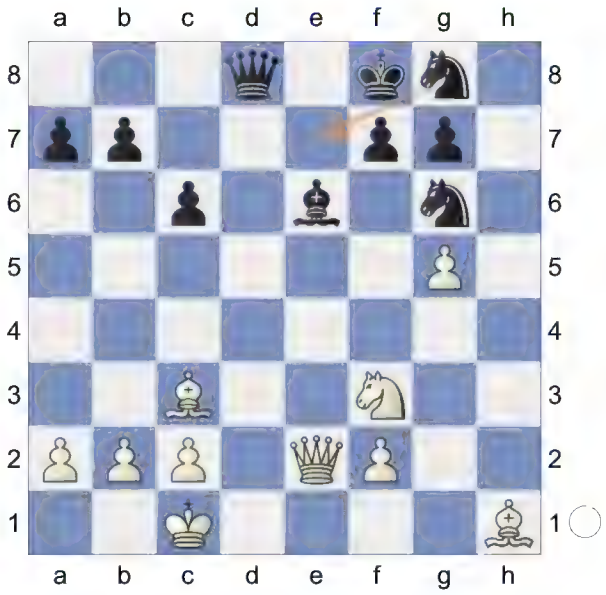
Discovered Attack **9...Rxh1 10.Bxh1 Ng8**



11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Qe2 Qe7 13.Nc3 c6
Prevents Nc3-d5. **14.Bf4 Ng6 15.Be3**
White is more active. **15...Be6**

(Diagram)

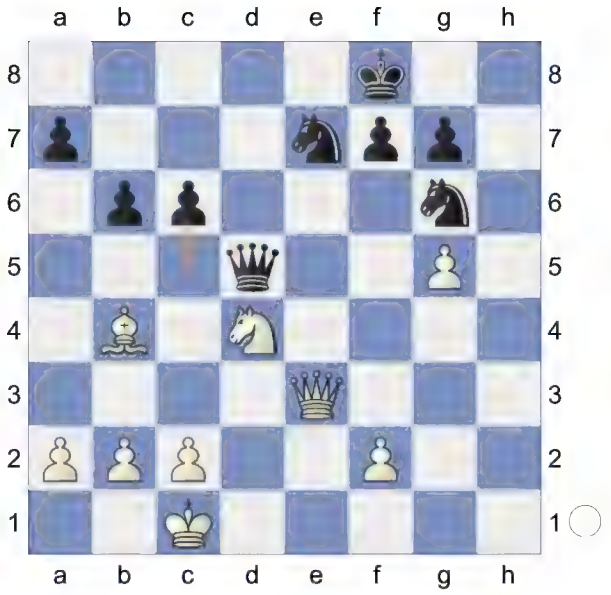
16.0-0-0 Rd8 17.Rxd8+
[17.Bxa7?! Qxg5+ 18.Kb1 Nf6∓]
17...Qxd8 18.Nf3
[18.Bxa7? Qxg5+ 19.f4 Nxf4∓
(19...Qxf4+ 20.Be3∓)]
18...Bb4 19.Bd4
[19.Bxa7 Bxc3 20.bxc3 Qa5=]
19...Bxc3 1.01/22
[19...Be7± 0.58/20 feels stronger.]
20.Bxc3± Kf8



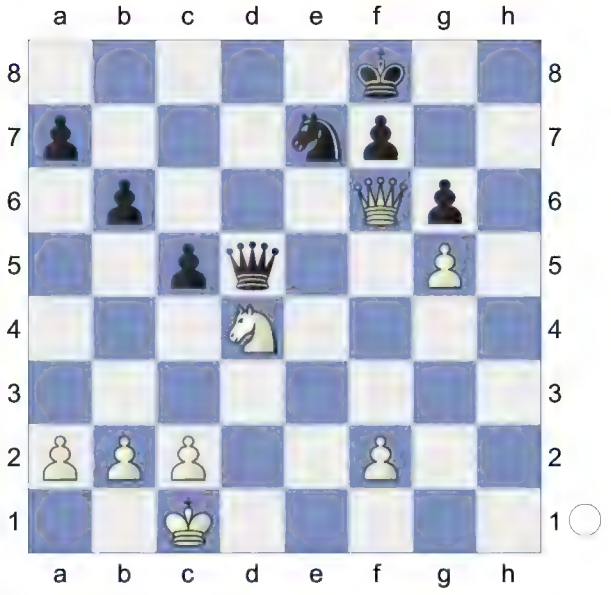
21.Bb4+ 0.48/21
[21.Qe3± 1.22/20]
21...N8e7±

22.Nd4? -4.11/21 **Bd5?** 0.22/21
[22...Bxa2 23.Qd2 Bd5 24.c4=]
[Better is 22...Qxd4-+ -4.11/21 23.Qe1 Qg4 *(23...Bxa2? 24.b3-+)*]
23.Qd2 Qd7
[23...Bxh1? 24.Ne6+ fxe6 25.Qxd8++-]
24.Bxd5 Qxd5 25.Qe3 The position is equal. **25...b6**
[25...c5 26.Bxc5 f6 *(26...Qxc5? loses. 27.Ne6+* Discovered Attack *fxe6 28.Qxc5+-)* 27.gxf6 *(27.Bxa7 Qxa2 28.Nb3 Qa6±)* 27...gxf6 28.b3 *(28.Bxa7 Qxa2 29.Nb3 Qa6±)*]

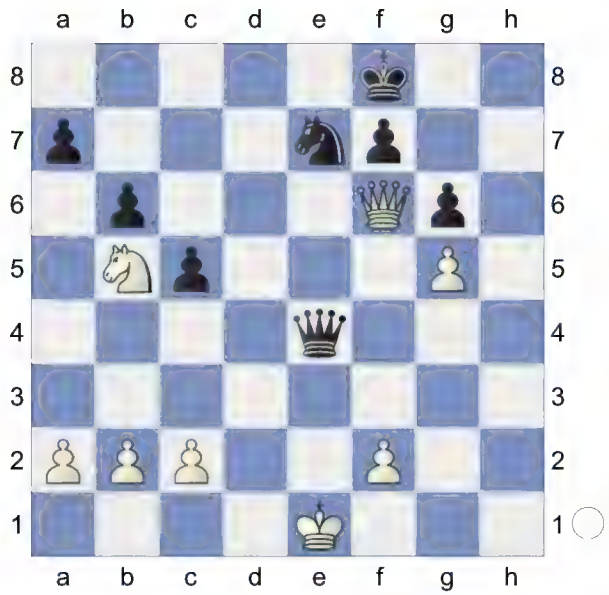
(Diagram)



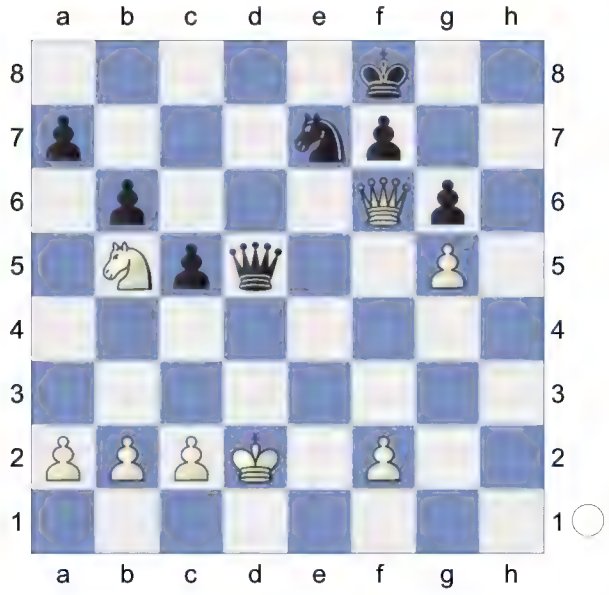
Threatens to win with ...c6-c5! **26.Bxe7+ Nxe7=** Endgame. KQN-KQN **27.Qg3** Strongly threatening Qg3-b8+. **27...g6**
[27...Kg8 simplifies 28.Qe3 c5 29.Qxe7 cxd4 30.a4 d3]
28.Qb8+ Kg7 29.Qf4 c5 30.Qf6+
[30.Nb5 simplifies Qf5 31.Qxf5 gxf5 32.Nxa7 Kg6 33.Nb5]
30...Kf8



31.Nb5 Qh1+ 32.Kd2 Qd5+! 33.Kc1 Qh1+ 34.Kd2 next b2-b3! is good for White. **34...Qd5+ 35.Ke1 Qe4+**
(Diagram)



36.Kd2 Qd5+



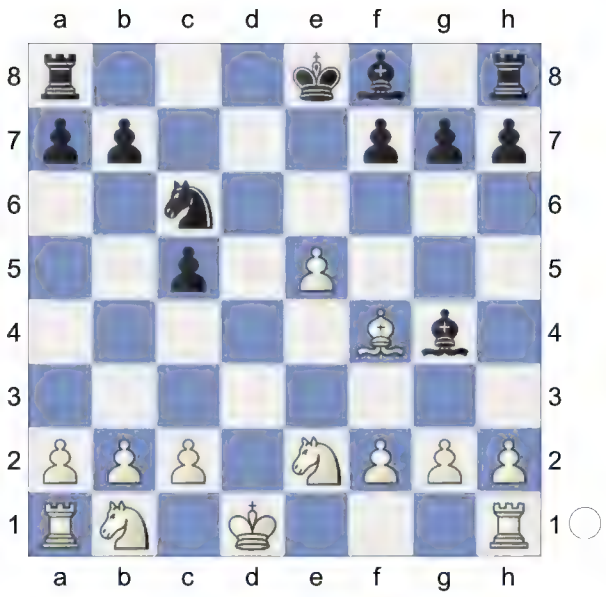
Weighted Error Value: White=0.30/ Black=0.23 (precise)
½-½

24 **C01**
□ **Avs2000** **2906**
■ **Theeminance** **2803**
Blitz 20.05.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

6.Ne2 e5 7.dxe5 Qxd1+ 8.Kxd1 Ng4
White is slightly better. **9.Bxg4 Bxg4**
10.Bf4N
[10.f3 Bd7 11.Nbc3 *(11.Bf4 Nc6 12.Nd2 0-0-0 13.Nc3* 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-6...e5 *)* 11...Nc6 12.Bf4 0-0-0 13.Ke1 Nb4 14.Rc1 Bf5 15.a3 *(15.Ne4 Nxa2 16.Ra1 Nb4 17.Rxa7 Nxc2+ 18.Kf2 Kc7* 6) Odds and Ends-(Alternative) The Schlechter The Aggressive French 2024*)* 15...Nxc2+ 16.Kf2 c4 17.g4 Bc5+ 18.Kg3 Bd3 6) Odds and Ends-(Alternative) The Schlechter The Aggressive French 2024]
10...Nc6

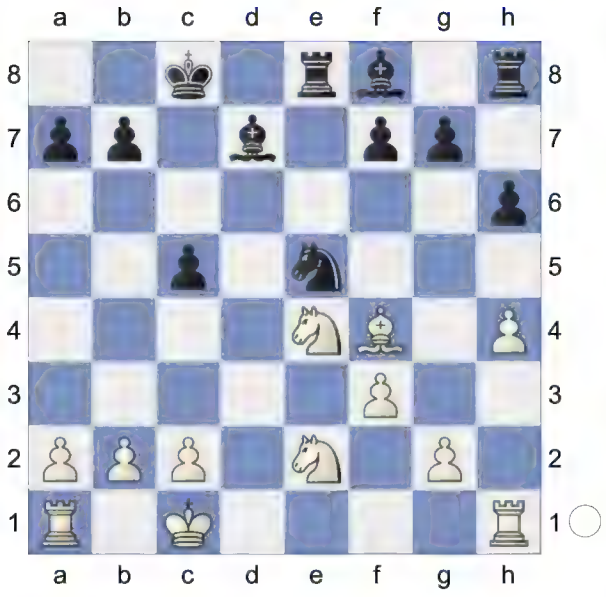
(Diagram)



11.Nbc3 **0-0-0+** Black has compensation. **12.Kc1** **h6** **13.f3** **Bd7** **14.h4** **Re8** **15.Ne4** -0.44/20

[15.b3= 0.01/17]

15...Nxe5



16.N2c3 -0.77/19

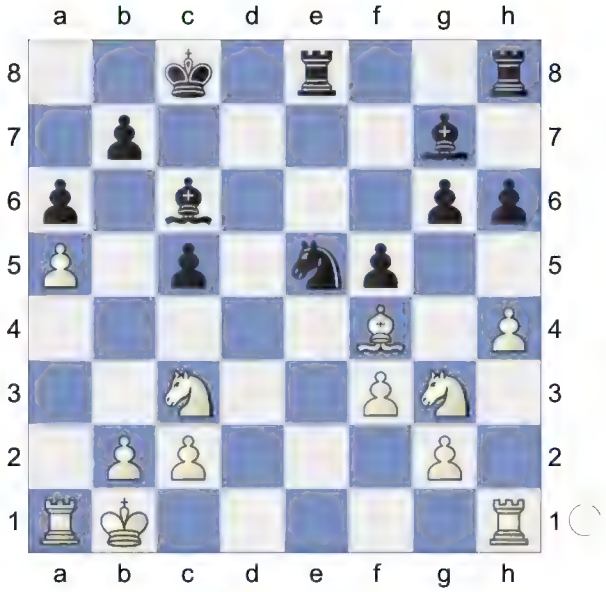
[16.b3∓ -0.41/18 should be considered.]

16...Bc6 **17.a4** **a6** Prevents Nc3-b5. **18.a5** -0.77/21

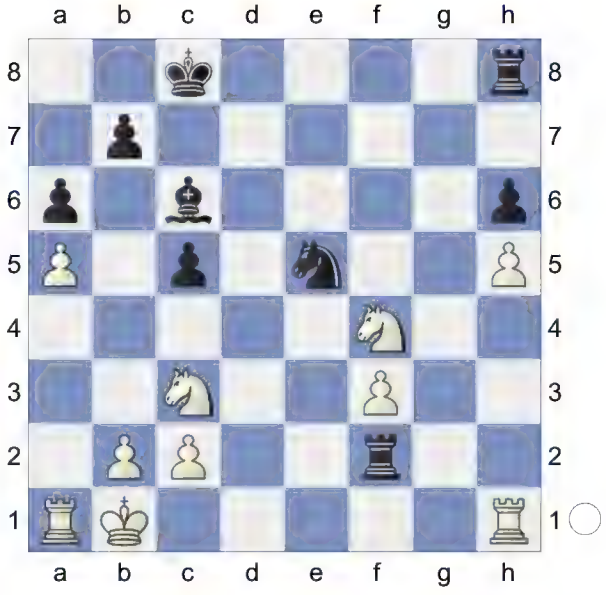
[18.h5∓ -0.34/19 feels stronger.]

18...f5∓ **19.Ng3** **g6** **20.Kb1** **Bg7** -0.15/22

[20...Nc4∓ -1.00/20 With the idea ... Bf8-g7. 21.Ka2 Nxa5]



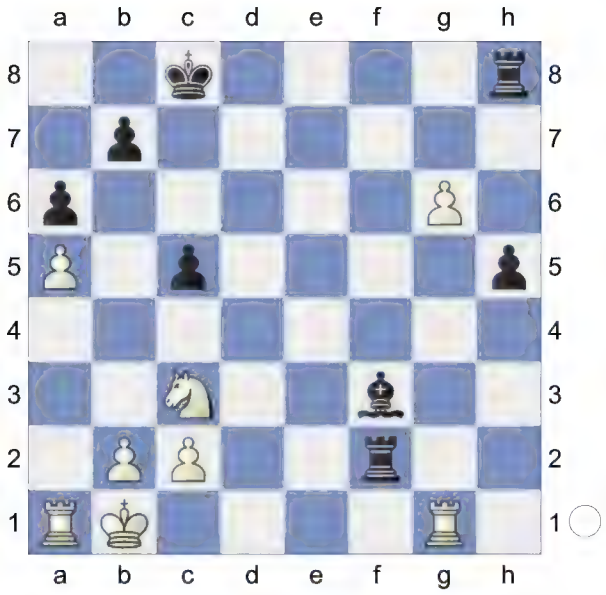
21.h5= **g5** **22.Nxf5** **gxf4** **23.Nxg7** A dynamic duo of knights. **23...Reg8** **24.Ne6** **Rxg2** **25.Nxf4** **Rf2**



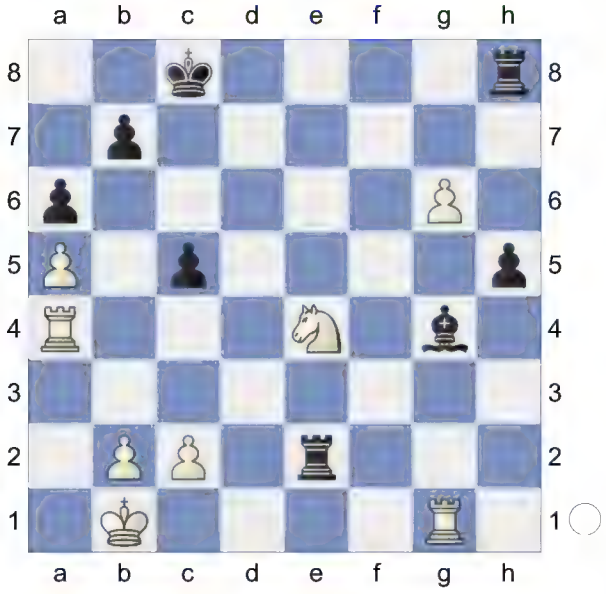
26.Ng6↑ White is pushing. **26...Bxf3** And now ...Ne5xg6 would win. **27.Rg1** **Nxg6** **28.hxg6** **h5** 0.85/22

[28...Rg2= 0.06/23 29.Rxg2 Bxg2]

(Diagram)

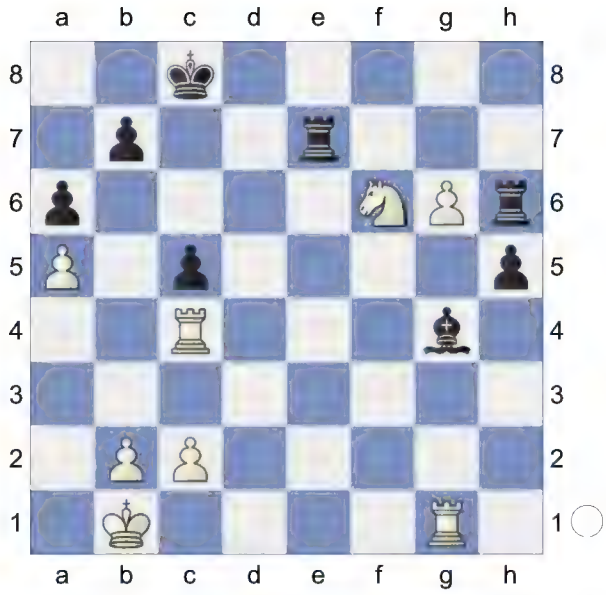


29.Ra4!± Bg4 30.Ne4 Re2 3.07/22
[30...Rf3± 0.81/24 was necessary.]

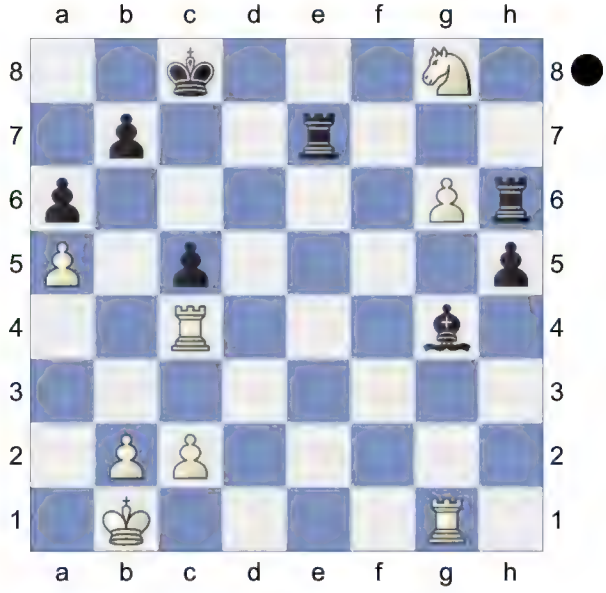


31.Nf6+-
[Less strong is 31.Nxc5 Rg8±]
31...Re7 32.Rc4 Rh6? 10.01/25
[32...Rc7 2.95/22 33.Nxg4 hxg4 34.Rcxg4 Kd7]

(Diagram)



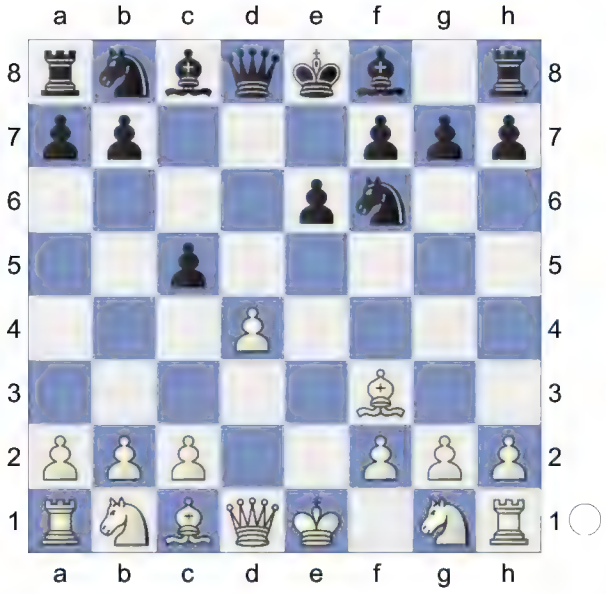
33.Ng8



Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.31
1-0

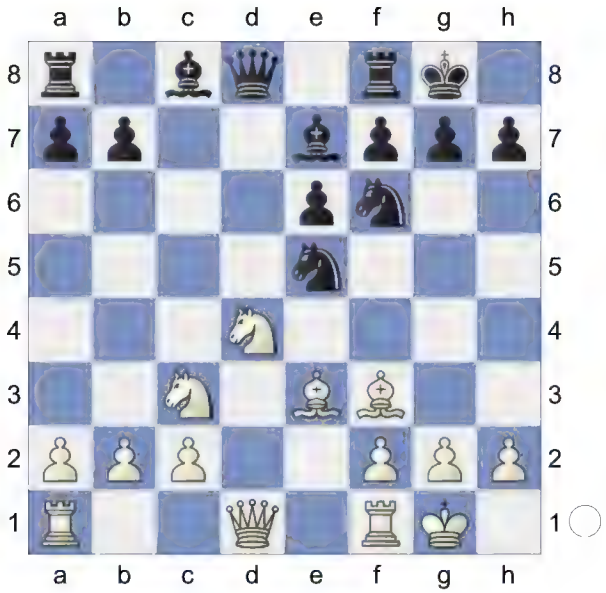
25 **C01**
□ **Ooopscheck** **2956**
■ **Jamnapari** **2882**
Blitz 22.04.2022
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5



6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5
The position is equal. **9.0-0 Be7**
[9...Nxf3+ 10.Qxf3 e5 11.Nb5 a6 12.Rd1 Qa5 13.N5c3 Qc7 14.Bg5 Be7 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Nd5 Qc6 17.Qa3 Bg4 18.Nxf6+ gxf6 19.f3 Be6 20.Nc3 f5 21.Rd6 Qc7 22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.Rxd5 Rd8 24.Rad1 1-0 (40) 4.d4 ?f6 5.?c4 (2825)-Sudgen, J (2791) CLA-007 VCC 2002 (3)]
10.Nc3 0-0

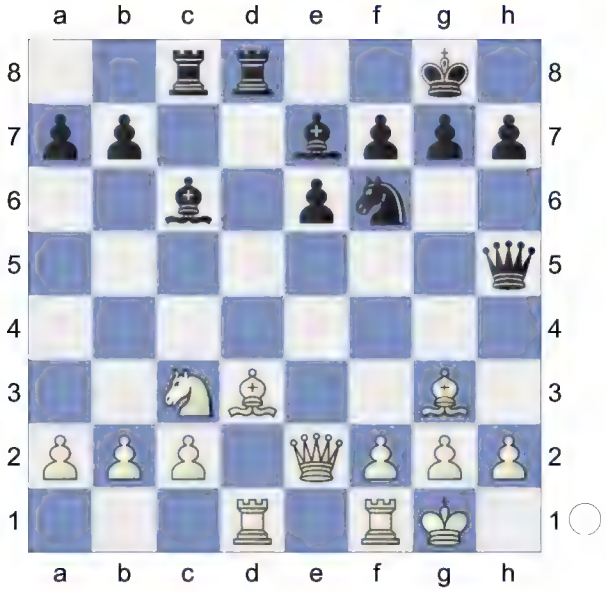
(Diagram)



11.Be2
[11.Qe2 a6 12.Rad1 Qc7 13.Rfe1 Bd7 14.Bf4 Nxf3+ 15.Qxf3 Qa5 16.Qxb7 Rfc8 17.Be5 Qb4 18.Qf3 Qxb2 19.Nf5 exf5 20.Nd5 Qa3 21.Bxf6 Bf8 22.Qxa3 Bxa3 23.Be7 Bc5 24.Bxc5 Rxc5 25.Nb6 Re8 1-0 (29) Garcia Busquets,J (2036)-Chiva Perez,F (2105) La Pobla de Lillet op 33rd 2024 (6)]
11...Bd7N
[11...Qc7 12.Ncb5 Qb8 13.f4 Ng6 14.Bd3 Nd5 15.Qd2 Bc5 Chapter Ch03-Games Chapter ch03]
12.Nf3 Qb8 13.Nxe5 Qxe5 14.Qd2 Bc6 15.Bf4 Qf5

(Diagram)

16.Bd3 Qh5 17.Qe2 Rfd8 18.Rad1 Rac8→ Black mounts an attack. **19.Be5 Ng4 20.Bg3 Nf6**



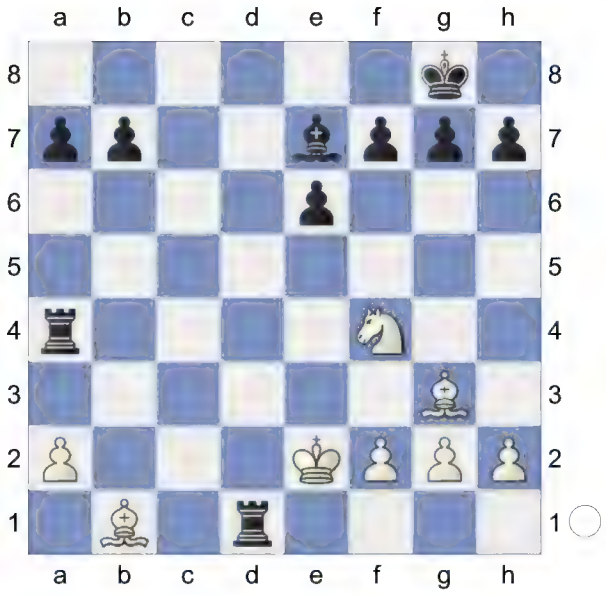
21.Rfe1 -0.44/17
[21.Be5!= -0.01/18 should be considered.]
21...Qxe2 22.Nxe2 -0.75/20
[22.Bxe2∓ -0.39/18 is superior. a6 23.Rxd8+ Bxd8 *(23...Rxd8 24.Bf4∓)* 24.Rd1]
22...Ne4∓ 23.c3 Ba4 24.b3 Nxc3 25.bxa4

(Diagram)

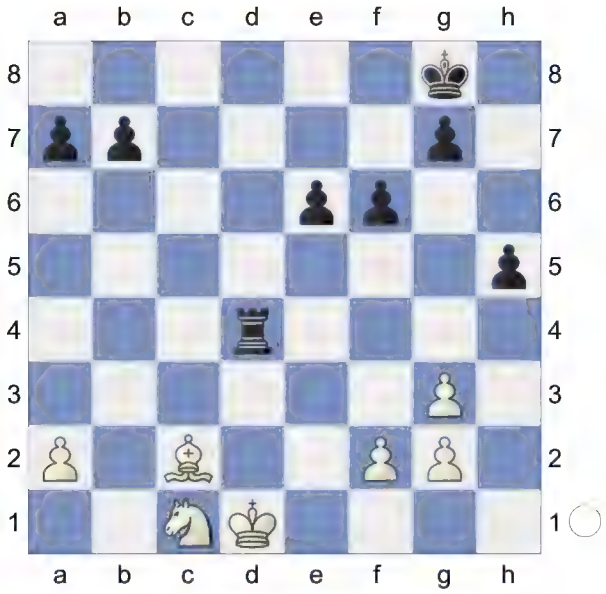
aiming for Ne2xc3. **25...Nxd1**

26.Rxd1 Rd5 -0.91/24
[⌓26...Rc5 -1.30/25 And now ...e6-e5 would win. 27.Kf1 Rcd5]
27.Kf1 -1.41/20
[White should play 27.Nf4 -0.91/24 Rd4 28.Ne2 *(28.Bxh7+? Kxh7 29.Re1 Rxa4-+)* 28...Rxa4 29.Bb1]
27...Rcd8 28.Nf4 Rd4 29.Ke2 Rxa4 30.Bb1 Rxd1

(Diagram)

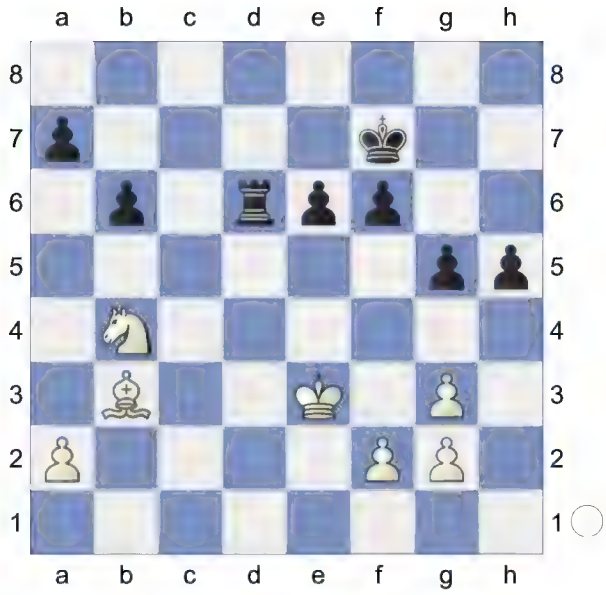


31.Kxd1 Bd6 32.Nd3 Bxg3 33.hxg3 f6 -0.97/19
[⌓33...g6 -1.38/18 34.Nc1 h5]
34.Nc1 h5 35.Bc2 Rd4+

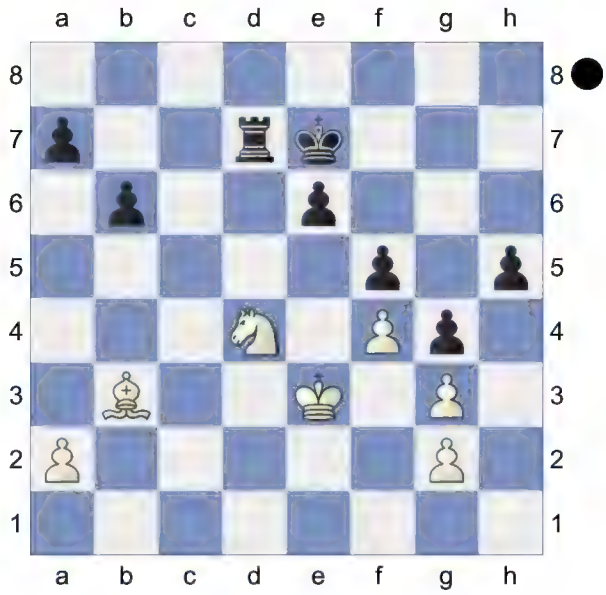


36.Ke2 g5 37.Nd3 b6 38.Bb3 -0.90/20
[38.Ke3∓ -0.41/22 Rd6 39.Ba4]
38...Kf7 39.Ke3 Rd8 40.Nb4 Rd6

(Diagram)

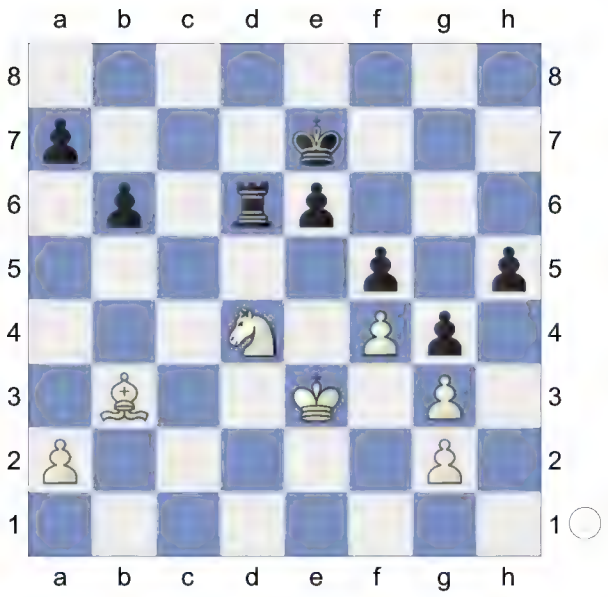


Dodges Nb4-c6 **41.Nc2 Ke7 42.Nd4 f5 43.f4 g4 44.Nb5 Rd7 45.Nd4**

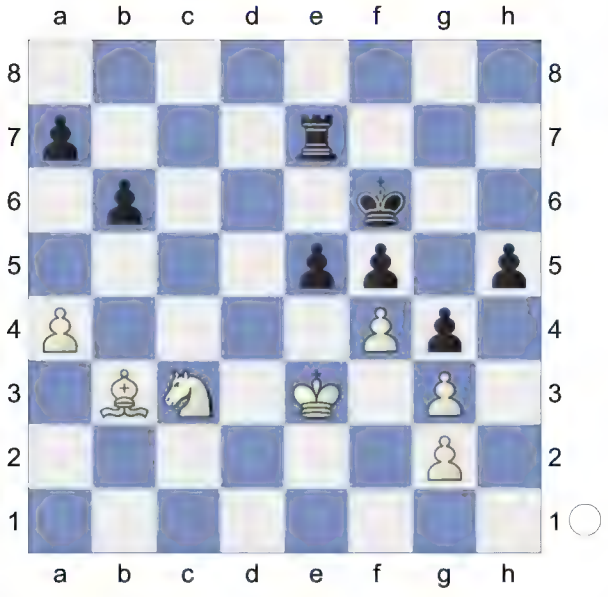


Rd6 -0.01/23
[45...Kf6!∓ -0.81/28 46.Bc4 *(46.Bxe6?* too greedy. *Rxd4 47.Bg8 Re4+ 48.Kd3 Re1-+; 46.Nxe6?* perishes. *Re7-+)* 46...e5]

(Diagram)

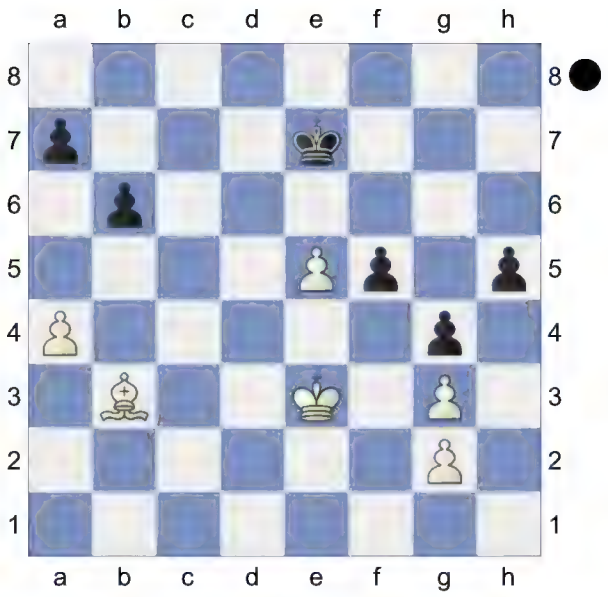


46.Nb5!= Rd7 -0.01/23
[46...Rc6!∓ -0.45/27 47.Nxa7 Rc3+ 48.Kf2 Kf6]
47.a4 -0.92/25
[47.Nd4= -0.01/23]
47...Kf6 48.Nc3 Rc7 49.Ne2 Re7 50.Nc3 e5? 15.17/24
[50...a6∓ -0.53/23]



51.Nd5++- White is clearly winning.
51...Ke6 52.Nxe7+ Kxe7 53.fxe5

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
1-0

26 **C01**
□ **Amerario** **2904**
■ **Matthewg P4P** **2818**
Blitz 12.05.2022
[Kitty Kat]

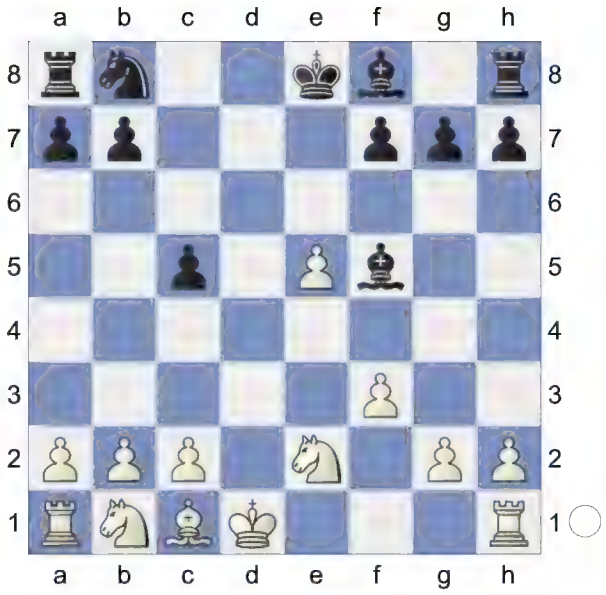
Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

(Diagram)

6.Ne2 e5 7.dxe5 Qxd1+ 8.Kxd1 Ng4 The position is equal. **9.Bxg4 Bxg4 10.f3 Bf5N**

[10...Bd7 11.Nbc3 *(11.Bf4 Nc6 12.Nd2 0-0-0 13.Nc3* 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-6...e5 *)* 11...Nc6 12.Bf4 0-0-0 13.Ke1 Nb4 14.Rc1 Bf5 15.a3 *(15.Ne4 Nxa2 16.Ra1 Nb4 17.Rxa7 Nxc2+ 18.Kf2 Kc7* 6) Odds and Ends-(Alternative) The Schlechter The Aggressive French 2024*)* 15...Nxc2+ 16.Kf2 c4 17.g4 Bc5+ 18.Kg3 Bd3 6) Odds and Ends-(Alternative) The Schlechter The Aggressive French 2024]

(Diagram)



11.Bf4 Nc6 12.Nbc3 Nb4 13.Ne4 0-0-0+ 14.Kc1 Be7 15.N2g3 0.22/20

[15.N2c3± 0.64/18 might be stronger.]

15...Bg6!=

16.h4 h6 17.h5 Bh7 18.a3↑ Black is under pressure. **18...Nd5 19.Bd2 Rhe8 20.f4** -0.37/20

[20.b3± 0.33/20]

20...f6∓

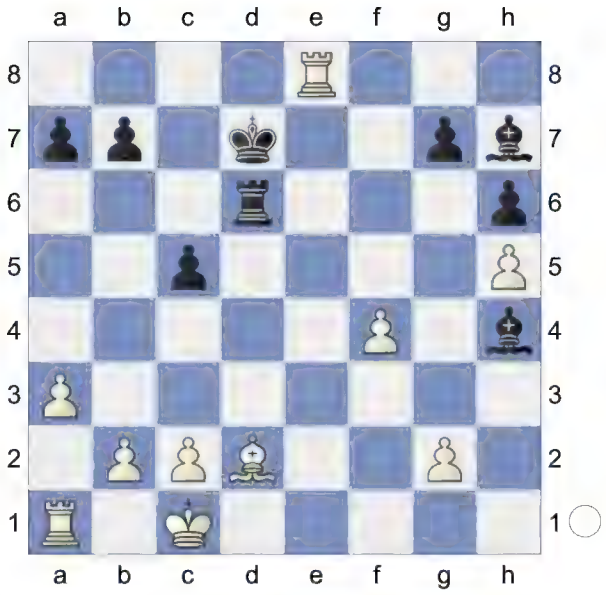
(Diagram)

21.exf6 Nxf6 22.Re1 Nxe4 23.Nxe4 Bh4? 2.73/23

[23...Bf8= -0.20/22 24.Nf2 c4]

24.Nd6+!+- Discovered Attack, Deflection **24...Rxd6 25.Rxe8+ Kd7**

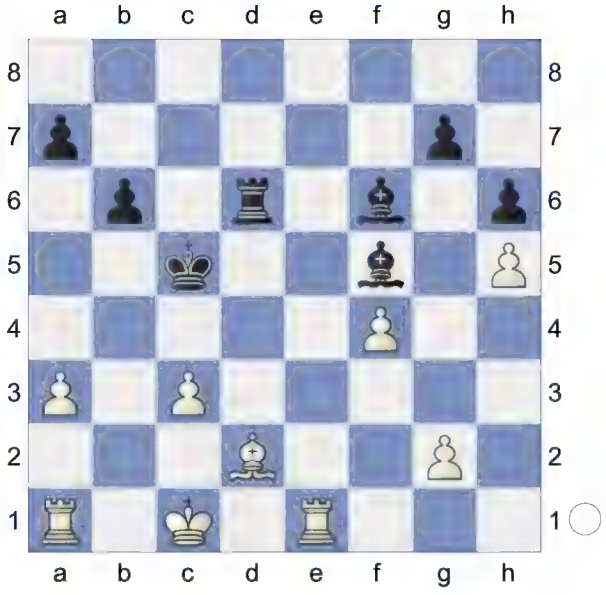
(Diagram)



26.Re5 b6 27.c3? 0.91/21 Wards off Rd6-d4

[27.a4+- 2.51/20]

27...Bf6± 28.Re1 Bf5 29.b4 Kc6 30.bxc5 Kxc5

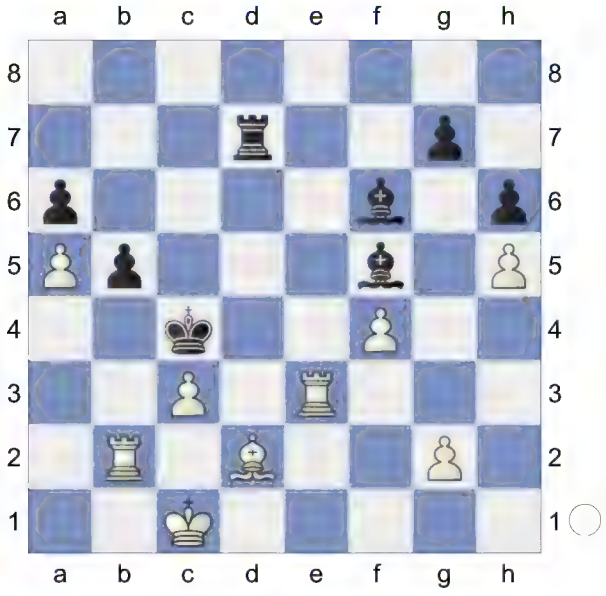


31.a4 Kc4 1.47/21

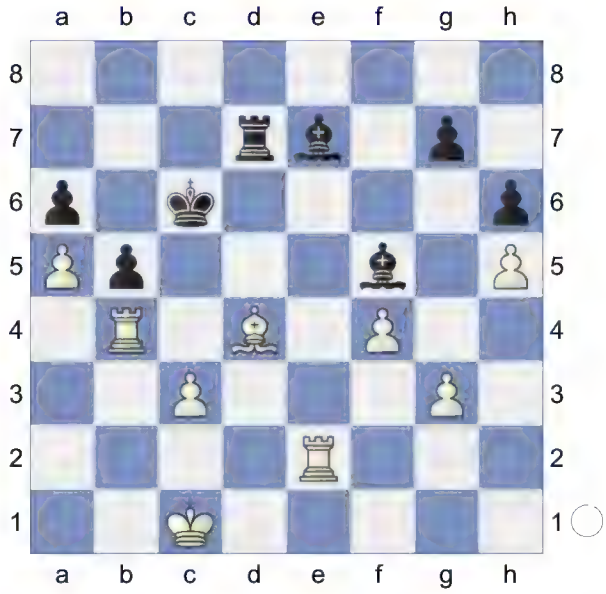
[⌓31...a5 0.91/20 32.Ra2 Kc6]

(Diagram)

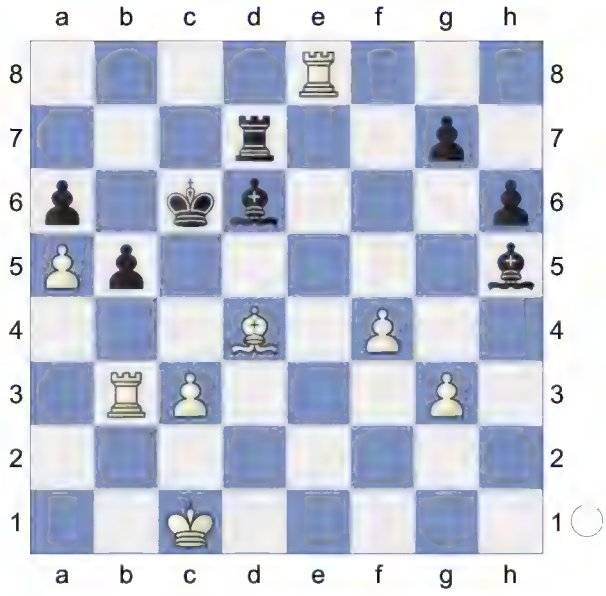
32.Ra2! Rd3 33.a5 0.65/22
[White should try 33.Rb2+- 1.74/22 Hoping for Rb2-b4+. Bd7 34.Rb4+ Kd5 35.f5]
33...b5± 34.Re3 Rd7 1.62/20
[34...b4± 0.84/24 was necessary.]
35.Rb2 a6



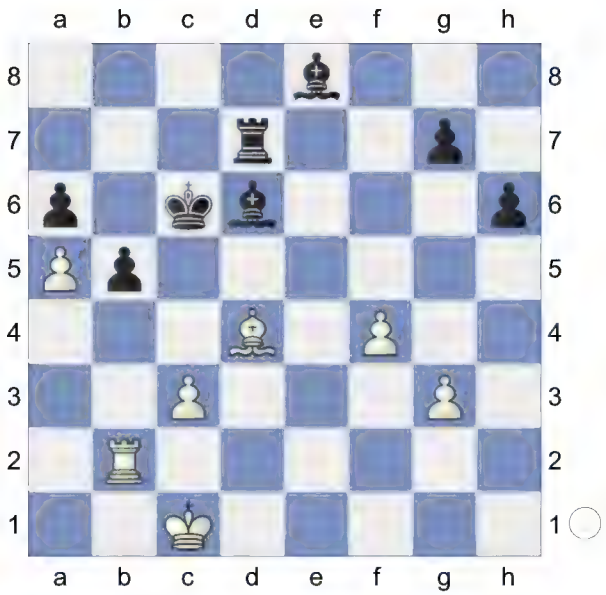
36.Rb4+ Kc5 1.74/21
[36...Kd5± 1.33/21 37.c4+ bxc4]
37.g3 1.37/22
[37.Re8+- 1.74/21]
37...Bd8? 8.88/23
[37...Rd8± 1.37/22 38.Re2 Kd6]
38.Re2? 2.05/23
[38.Re5+ 8.88/23 Kc6 39.Rxf5 Bxa5 40.Re4]
38...Bf6 39.Be3+ Kc6 40.Bd4 Threatens to win with Bd4xf6. **40...Be7**



41.Rb3 And now c3-c4 would win.
41...Bg4 42.Re5 c3-c4! is the strong threat. **42...Bd6** 2.43/21
[42...Kb7 1.79/21 might work better. 43.Rb2 Bd6]
43.Re8+- aiming for Re8-a8. **43...Bxh5**



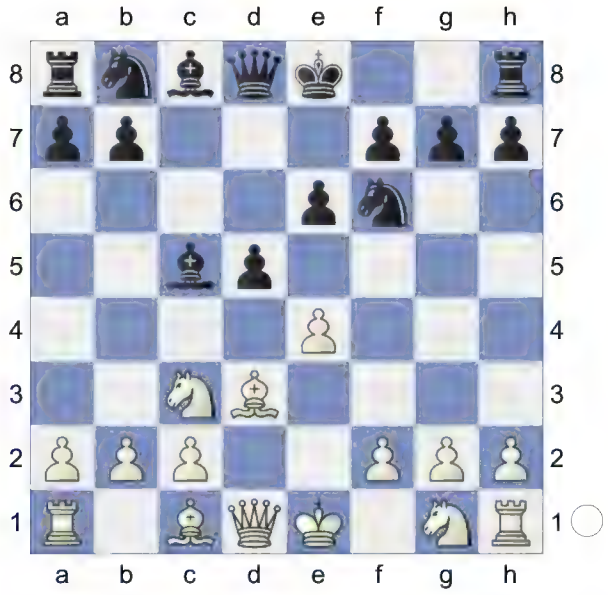
44.Rb2?? -6.85/21 **Bxe8**
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/ Black=0.29 (precise)
0-1

27 **C11**
□ **Lsgeneraal** **2914**
■ **Mefegio** **2631**
Blitz 09.03.2022
[Kitty Kat]

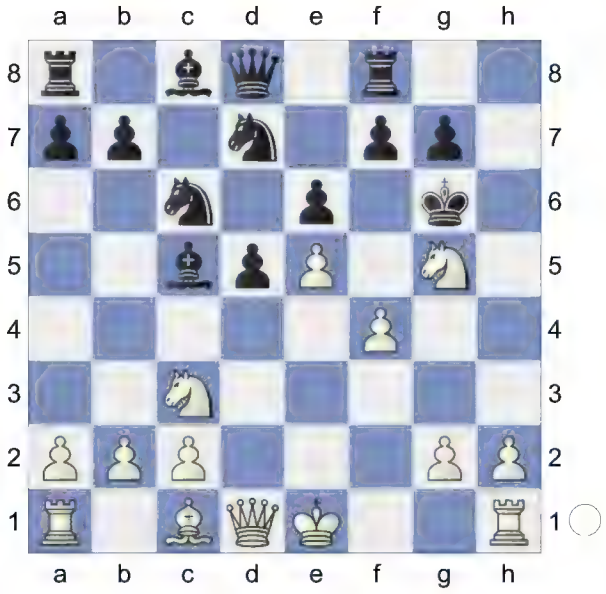
Blitz 3min
C11: French: Classical System: 4 e5 and 4 Bg5 dxe4
1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.dxc5N
[4.exd5 exd5 5.Nf3 *(5.dxc5 Bxc5 6.Nf3 Nf6 7.0-0 0-0 8.c3 Nc6 9.Nbd2 Bg4 10.Nb3 Bb6 11.Re1 Re8 12.Be2 Ne4 13.Nfd4 Bd7 14.Be3 Ne5 15.f3 Nd6 16.Bf2 Qf6 17.Qc2 Rac8 18.Rad1 h5 19.Nc1 h4* 0-1 (23) Khusnutdinov,R (2429)-Erigaisi,A (2778) FIDE World Bl Team Pool B blitz 2024 (1.13)*)* 5...Nf6 *(5...c4 6.Be2 Nc6 7.b3 cxb3 8.axb3 Bd6 9.0-0 Nge7 10.c4 0-0 11.Nc3 a6 12.Bg5 f6 13.Bh4 Be6 14.Bg3 Kh8 15.c5 Bxg3 16.hxg3 Bg4 17.Re1 Nf5 18.Ra2 Qd7 19.Nh4 Bxe2 20.Raxe2* 1-0 (89) 7.a4 ?bd7 8. ?e3 (2628)-Brooklyn Cc (2476) GBR-ch 95th Liverpool 2008 (4)*)* 6.c3 Nc6 7.0-0 cxd4 8.Re1+ Be7 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.cxd4 0-0 11.Nc3 Be6 12.Bc2 N,N-Exd5]
4...Bxc5 5.Nc3 Nf6



6.e5 Nfd7 7.f4 Nc6 8.Nf3 0-0 0.74/18
[8...a6= 0.00/16]

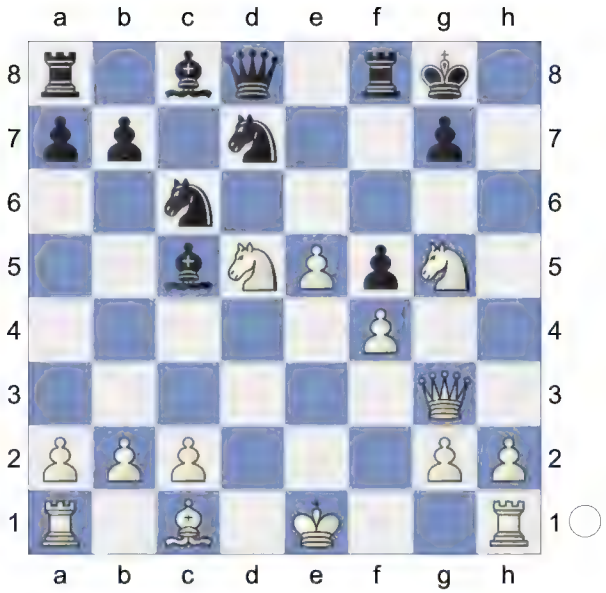
9.Bxh7+!± Decoy **9...Kxh7 10.Ng5+ Kg6!**

[10...Kg8? 11.Qh5+-]

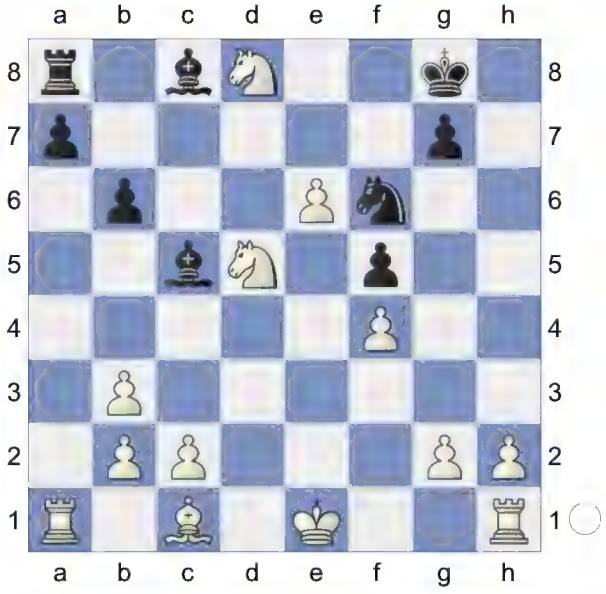


White has an edge. **11.Qd3+**
[11.Qg4!? f5□ 12.Qg3=]
11...f5 12.Nxe6 -0.33/20
[12.Qg3± 0.32/19 Qe7 13.Nxe6+ Kh6 14.Qh3+ *(14.Nxf8 Nxf8 15.Nxd5 Qf7=)* 14...Kg6 15.Qg3+ *(15.Nxf8+ Qxf8 16.Nxd5 Nb6=; 15.g4 fxg4 16.Qxg4+ Kf7∓)* 15...Kh6 16.Ng5 *(16.Nxf8 Nxf8 17.Nxd5 Qd7±)*]
12...Qe7 0.29/19
[Black should play 12...Qh4+∓ -0.33/20 13.g3 Qh3 14.Qxd5 Nb6 15.Nxf8+ Bxf8]
13.Qg3+= Kh7? 4.16/22 This costs Black the game.
[13...Kh6!± 0.48/20 14.Qh3+ *(14.Nxf8 Nxf8 15.Nxd5 Qf7=)* 14...Kg6 15.Qg3+ *(15.Nxf8+ Nxf8 16.Nxd5 Qd8∓; 15.g4 fxg4 16.Qxg4+ Kf7∓)* 15...Kh6]
14.Ng5++- Kg8 15.Nxd5 Qd8 9.41/21
[⌓15...Qe8 4.16/21 16.Qb3 Rf7]

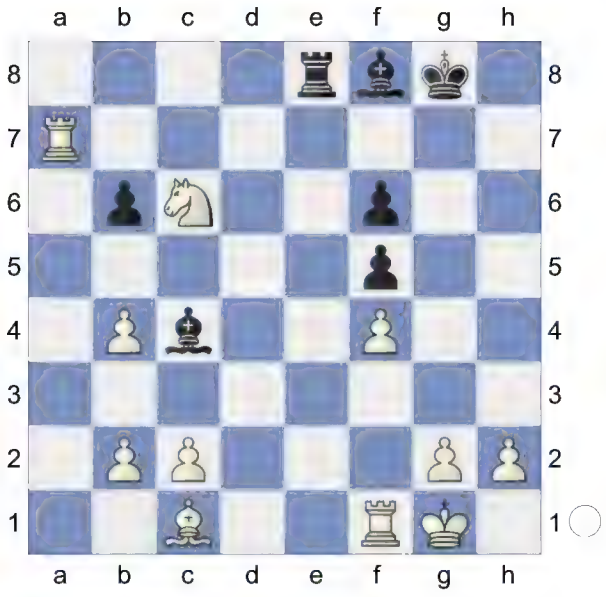
(Diagram)



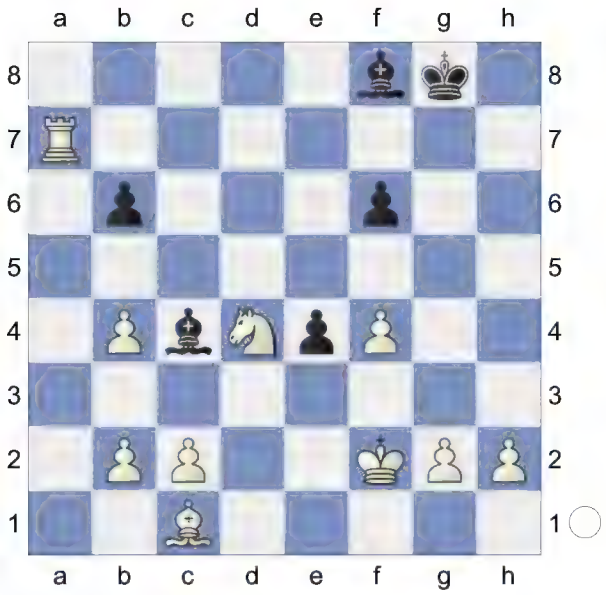
16.Qb3 Intending Nd5-f6+ and mate.
[16.Ne6 Qa5+ 17.Bd2 Bf2+ 18.Qxf2 *(18.Kxf2 Qxd2+ 19.Kf1 Rf7=)* 18...Qxd5 19.Nxf8 Nxf8±]
16...Rf7 17.Nxf7? 3.17/19
[17.Nf6+ 9.84/22 Qxf6 18.exf6]
17...Nd4? 10.83/22
[17...Kxf7 3.17/19 18.Nc7+ Discovered Attack (Check) Kg6]
18.Nxd8 White wants to mate with Nd5-f6+. **18...Nxb3 19.axb3 b6 20.e6 Nf6**



21.Nxf6+ gxf6 22.Nc6 Bxe6 23.b4 Bf8 24.Rxa7 Re8 25.0-0 Bc4



26.Rd1 Be2 27.Re1 Re4 28.Kf2 Bb5 29.Rxe4 fxe4 30.Nd4 Bc4



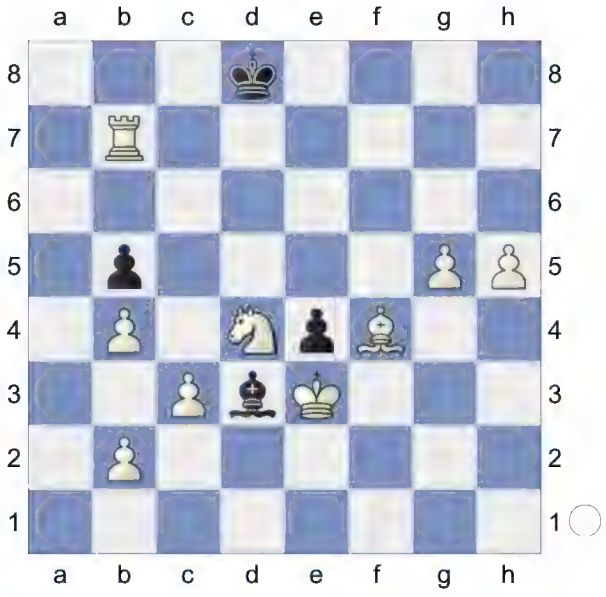
31.c3 Bd3 32.Be3 b5 33.Rb7 Bd6 34.g4 Kf8 35.h4 Be7

(Diagram)

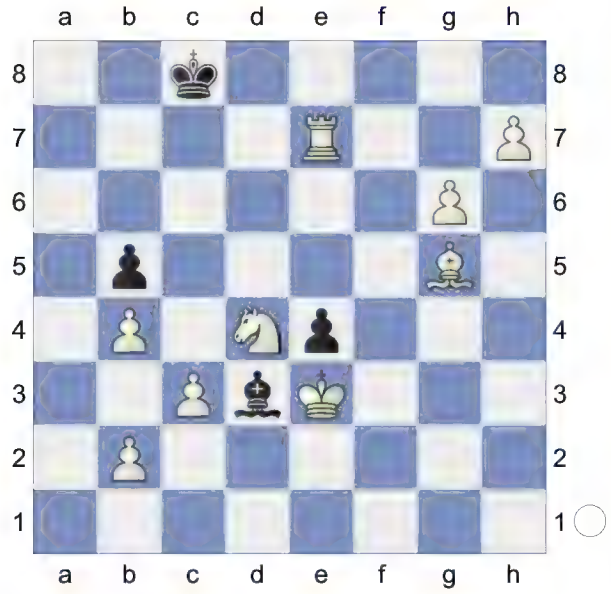
36.h5 Nd4-f5! would kill now. **36...f5 37.g5** 28.12/16

[⌓37.Nxf5 #9/19 Bc4 38.Nxe7 Kf7 39.h6 Be6 40.h7 Bxg4 41.Nf5+ *(41.h8R Bd7 42.Rh7+ Ke6 43.f5+ Kf6 44.Rb6+ Ke5 45.Rhh6 Bxf5 46.Rxb5#)* 41...Kf6 42.h8Q+ *(42.h8R Bxf5 43.Rh6+ Bg6 44.Kg3 Ke6 45.b3 Kf6 46.Kg4 Ke6 47.Rxg6+ Kd5 48.Rxb5#)* 42...Kxf5 43.Qe5+ Kg6 44.Qg5#]

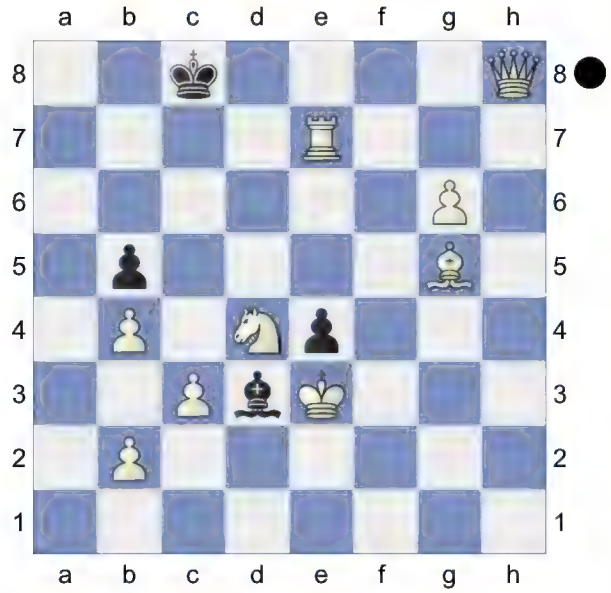
37...Bxg5 38.fxg5 f4 39.Bxf4 Ke8 40.Ke3 Kd8



41.g6 White threatens g6-g7! and mate. **41...Kc8 42.Re7 Kd8 43.Bg5** 24.49/5
[⌓43.Nc6+ #2/6 Kc8 44.Rc7#]
43...Kc8 44.h6 White mates. **44...Kb8 45.h7 Kc8**



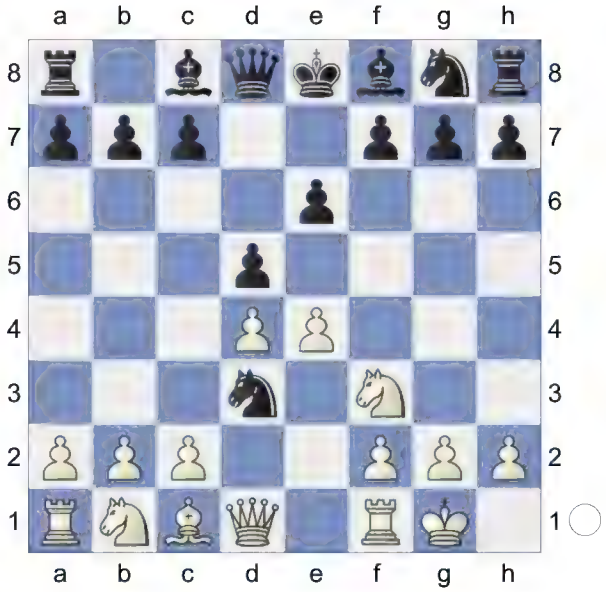
46.h8Q#



Weighted Error Value: White=0.60/ Black=0.80
1-0

28 **C01**
□ **Ukrchess Org Ua** **2973**
■ **Traptical** **2867**
Blitz 04.08.2021
[Kitty Kat]

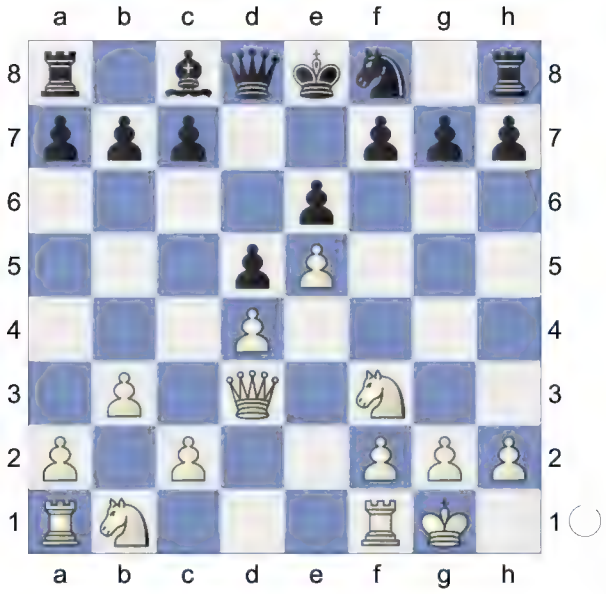
Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
Here is another interesting game. Aaron, Onischuk's opponent, isn't a person who's gonna make chess his main thing in life, but he is still a pretty strong player. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 Nc6 4.Nf3 Nb4 5.0-0**
[5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Bg5 Be7 7.0-0 Nxd3 8.cxd3 c6 9.h3 b6 10.Qa4 Bb7 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.exd5 exd5 13.Rfe1+ Kf8 14.Ne5 Qd6 15.Re3 g6 16.Rae1 Kg7 17.Ne2 Bg5 18.f4 Bh4 19.g3 Bf6 1-0 (43) Onischuk,V (2612)-Grabinsky,A (2401) Titled Tue 12th Dec Late blitz 2023 (4)]
5...Nxd3



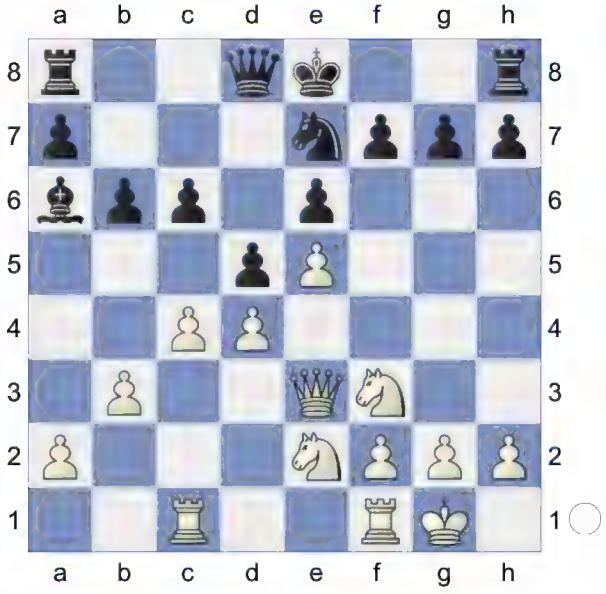
6.Qxd3 Nf6 7.e5N
[7.exd5 Qxd5 8.Nc3 Qh5 9.Bf4 c6 10.Rae1 Be7 11.Re5 Qg6 12.Qe2 h6 13.Re3 Qf5 14.Be5 0-0 15.Re1 b6 16.Nd2 Qxc2 17.Rg3 Ba6

18.Qe3 Kh7 19.Nde4 Ne8 20.Bxg7 Nxg7 21.Rh3 Nf5 0-1 (30) Zavgorodniy,S (2423)-Oganian,M (2437) Titled Tue 5th Apr Early blitz 2022 (5)]

7...Ng8 8.b3 White is slightly better.
8...Ne7 9.Ba3 Ng6 10.Bxf8 Nxf8

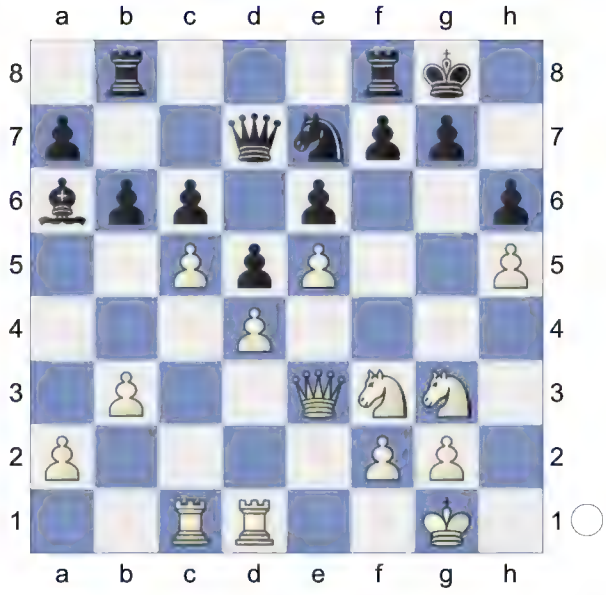


11.c4 Ng6 12.Nc3 c6 13.Qe3 b6 14.Rac1 Ba6 15.Ne2 Ne7 0.64/19
[15...0-0= 0.27/20]

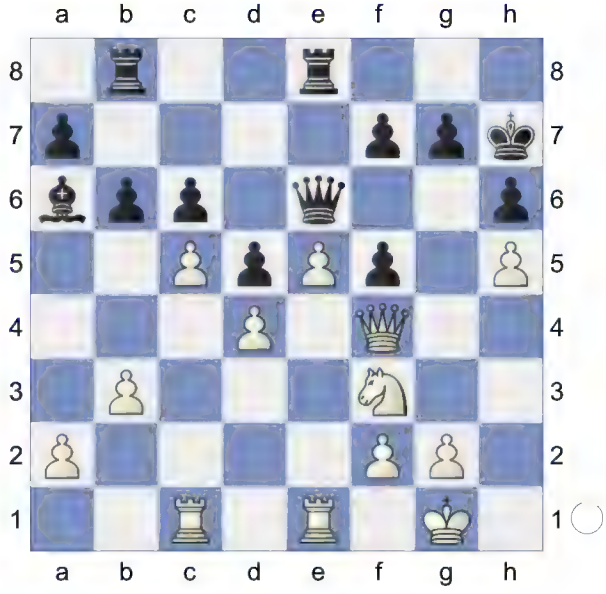


16.Rfd1 0-0 17.h4 0.24/20
[White should play 17.Ng3± 0.72/17]

17...Rc8 Black is weak on the dark squares **18.h5 h6 19.Ng3 Qd7** 0.82/17
[19...c5= 0.30/20 remains equal.]
20.c5± White is more active. **20...Rb8**

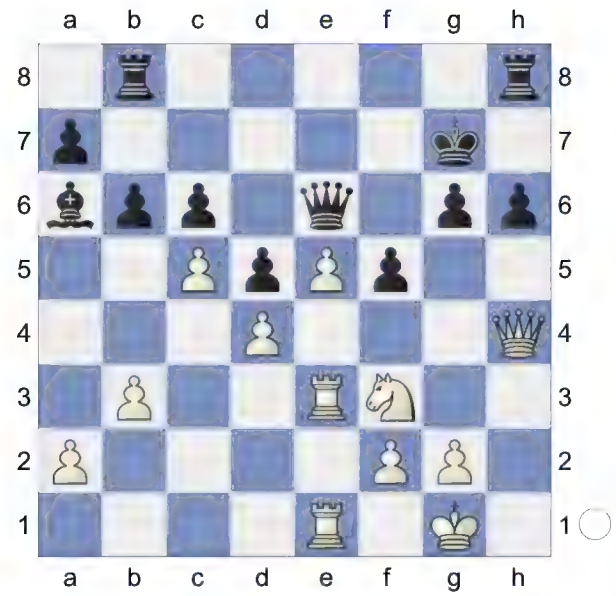


21.Nh2 Rfe8 22.Qf4 Nf5 23.Nxf5 exf5 24.Re1 Prevents Ba6-e2 **24...Kh7 25.Nf3 Qe6**



26.Re3 g5 1.45/20
[⌓26...Bc8 1.09/19 27.b4 a5]
27.hxg6+ fxg6 28.Qh4 Kg7 29.Rce1 0.87/20
[Better is 29.cxb6 1.28/21 Rxb6 30.Qf6+ Kg8 31.g3]

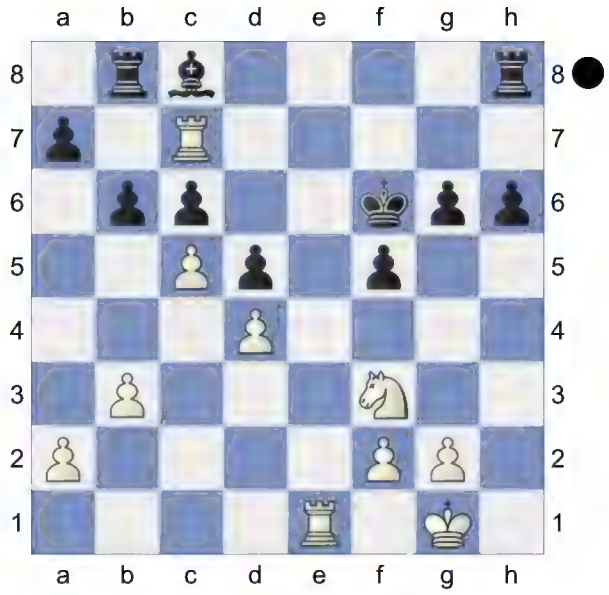
29...Rh8? 7.19/21
[29...Rf8± 0.87/20]



Loses the game. **30.Qf6+!+- Qxf6**

31.exf6+ Kxf6 32.Re7 Bc8
Repels Re1-e6+ **33.Rc7**

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
1-0

29	**C01**
☐ **Evg85**	**2893**
■ **Realchess School**	**2757**
Blitz	11.09.2021
[Kitty Kat]	

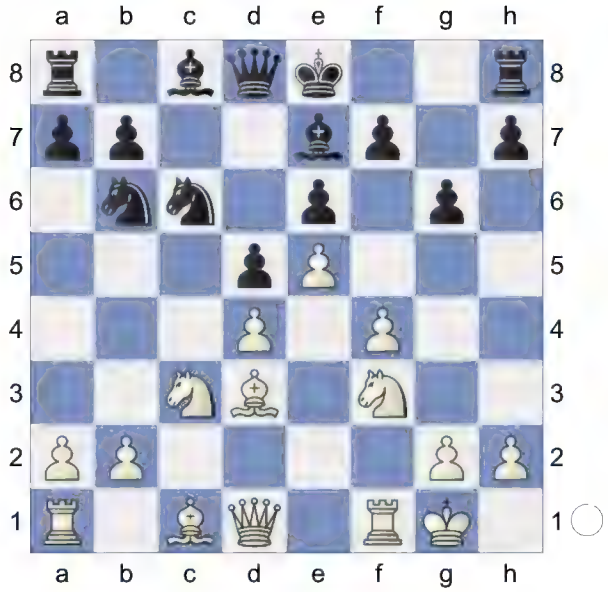
Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
We're gonna skip Onischuk's win against a 2150 as it's not cool to watch him destroy bad FMs really and go to this game to show another line black can play in the Schlechter French. It's another blitz game in which Onischuk chose violence. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5**

(Diagram)

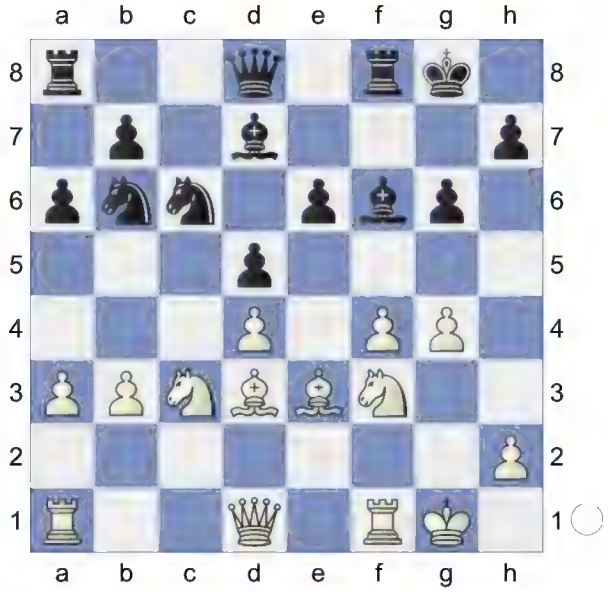
6.c3 Active counter play! **6...Nc6 7.Nf3 cxd4N**

[7...Qb6 8.Bc2 *(8.Be2 f6 9.a3 Be7 10.b4 cxd4 11.cxd4 0-0 12.Bb2 g5 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.Nxg5 h6 15.Nf3 Ne4 16.Nbd2 Rxf4 17.0-0 Bd7 18.Nb3 Raf8 19.Rb1 Qd8 20.Nc5 b6 21.Nxd7 Qxd7 22.Bb5 Qd6* 1-0 (33) Onischuk,V (2633)-Mokshanov,A (2454) Titled Tuesday 10th Nov blitz 2020 (7)*)* 8...cxd4 9.cxd4 Bb4+ *(9...Nb4 10.0-0 Nxc2 11.Qxc2 Be7 12.Nc3 f5 13.Be3 0-0 14.Rfc1 Nb8 15.Na4 Qd8 16.a3 b6 17.b4 Bd7 18.Nb2 Nc6 19.Nd3 Rc8 20.Qb3 Be8 21.Rc3 Nb8 22.a4 Rxc3 23.Qxc3 Bh5 24.b5* (25) Cuenca Jimenez,J (2492)-Kozak, A (2376) 131/(165) Gibraltar 2017*)* 10.Nc3 0-0 11.Bxh7+ Kxh7 12.Ng5+ Kg8 *(12...Kg6 13.Qg4 f5 14.Qh4* 36) 1.e4 e6 French: 3...Nf6 &-French Nf6 *)* 13.Qh5 Rd8 14.Qxf7+ Kh8 15.Qh5+ Kg8 16.Qh7+ Kf8 17.Qh8+ Ke7 18.Qxg7+ Ke8 19.Qf7# 36) 1.e4 e6 French: 3...Nf6 &-French Nf6]

8.cxd4 White is slightly better. **8...Nb6 9.Nc3 Be7 10.0-0 g6**



11.b3 Bd7 12.a3 0-0 13.g4 f6 14.exf6 Bxf6 15.Be3 a6



16.Ne5 Rc8 17.Rc1 0.00/21

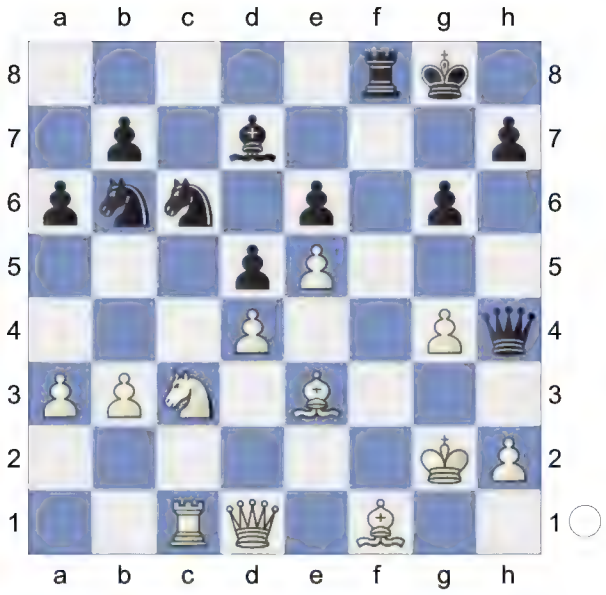
[17.Qd2± 0.56/18]

17...Bxe5 0.66/22

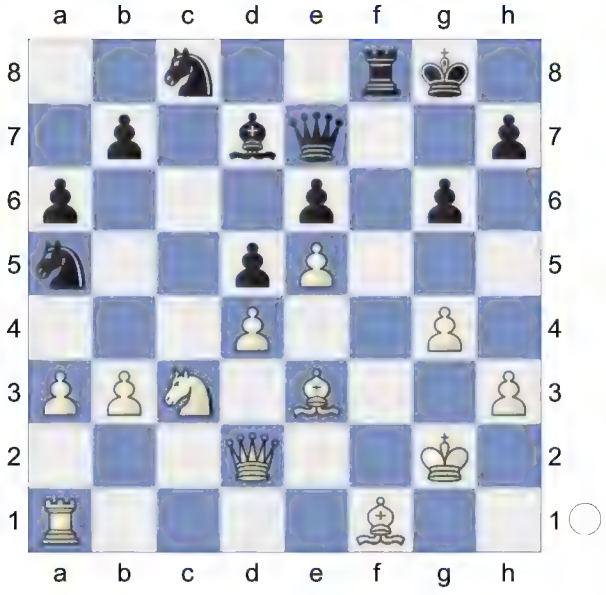
[17...Be7= 0.00/21]

18.fxe5± Qh4 19.Kg2 Rxf1 20.Bxf1 Rf8

(Diagram)

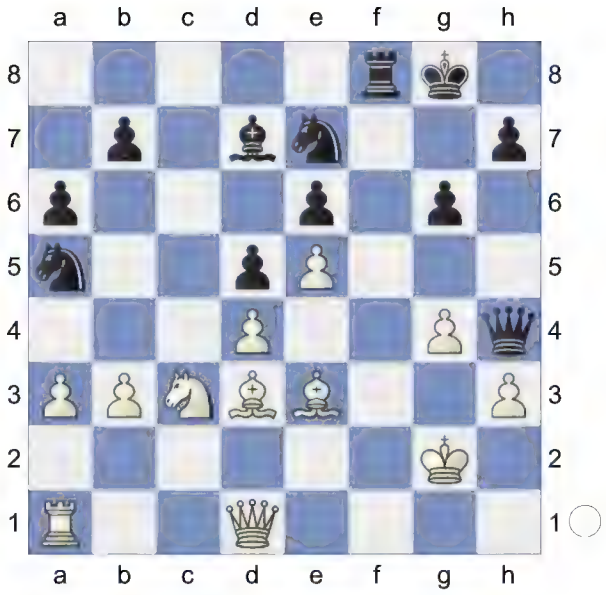


21.h3 Nc8 1.63/21
[21...Qe7± 0.92/19]
22.Qd2+- Qe7 23.Ra1 0.99/21
[23.Na4+- 1.68/21]
23...Na5±

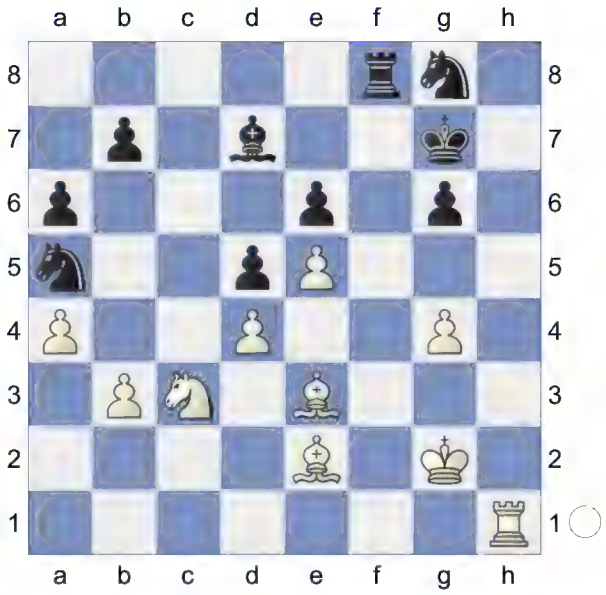


24.Qd1 0.69/17
[24.Bg5!± 1.08/21 Qf7 25.Qe3]
24...Qh4 1.07/20
[24...Na7± 0.69/17 feels stronger.]
25.Bd3 Ne7

(Diagram)



26.a4 0.46/19
[26.Ne2± 0.97/19]
26...h5 27.Be2 -0.01/22
[27.Qe1± 0.68/18 Qxe1 28.Rxe1]
27...hxg4 28.hxg4 Black must now prevent Qd1-d3. **28...Kg7 29.Qh1** The board is on fire. **29...Qxh1+ 30.Rxh1 Ng8** 1.23/20
[30...Rc8= -0.01/23 31.Bh6+ Kg8]

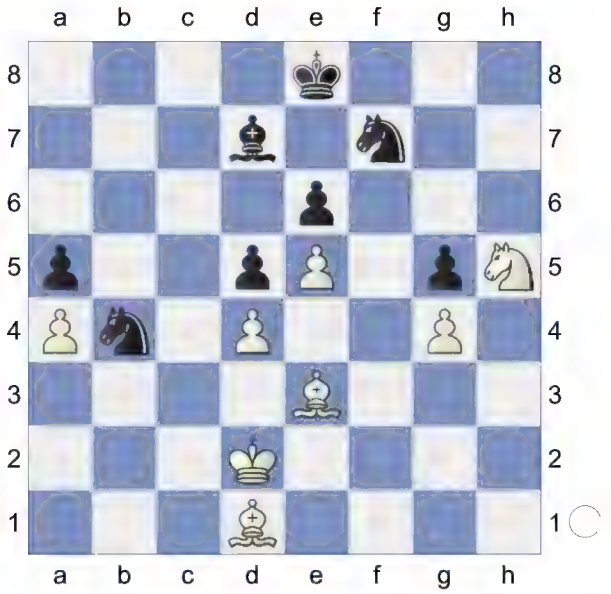


Wards off Be3-h6+ **31.Bd1 Rc8 32.Bd2 Nc6 33.Ne2 a5** 1.23/21
[⌓33...b5 0.78/21]

34.Kg3 Nb4 35.Nf4 1.41/23
[⌓35.Ng1 0.83/20]
35...Ne7

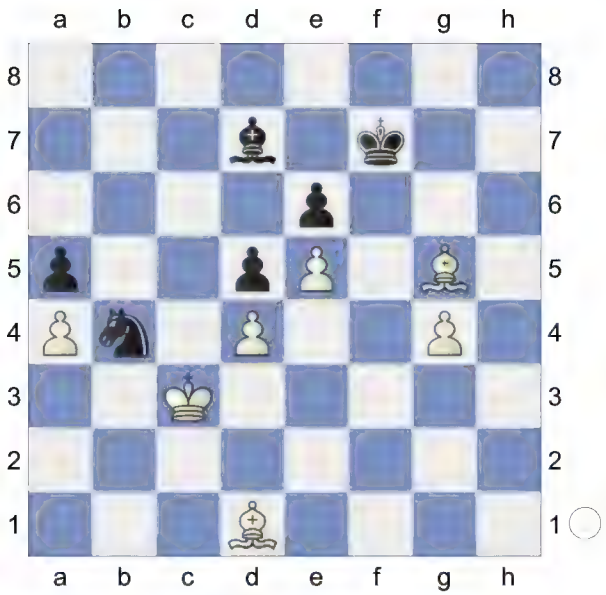
36.Rf1 Nec6 37.Be3 0.66/20
[37.Ne2= 0.26/21]
37...Rf8 38.Rf2 0.63/19
[38.Rh1± 1.01/20]
38...Nd8 1.23/22
[38...Rc8± 0.63/19]
39.Nh3 0.51/20
[White should play 39.Be2± 1.23/22]
39...Rxf2± 40.Kxf2 b5

41.Ke2 bxa4 42.bxa4 Nf7 43.Kd2 Kf8
1.18/23
[Better is 43...Nd8± 0.60/20]
44.Nf4± g5 1.96/24
[44...Kg7± 1.49/23]
45.Nh5 1.38/24
[45.Nh3+- 1.96/24]
45...Ke8 2.00/24
[45...Bc8± 1.38/24 was worth a try. 46.Nf6 Ba6 47.Nh7+ Kg8 48.Nxg5 Nd8]

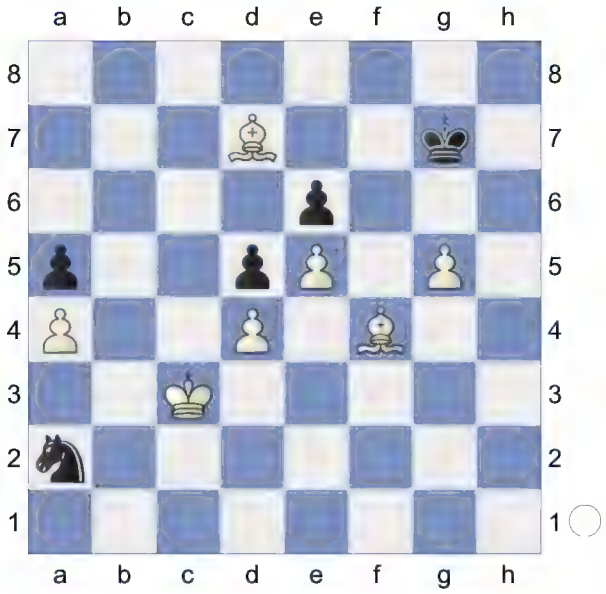


46.Nf6++- Ke7 47.Kc3 Nc6 2.32/25
[47...Be8 1.75/23 was necessary. 48.Bb3 Bd7]
48.Nh7 Nb4 49.Nxg5
[49.Bxg5+ Nxg5 50.Nxg5 Ke8±]
49...Nxg5 50.Bxg5+ Endgame. KBB-KBN **50...Kf7**

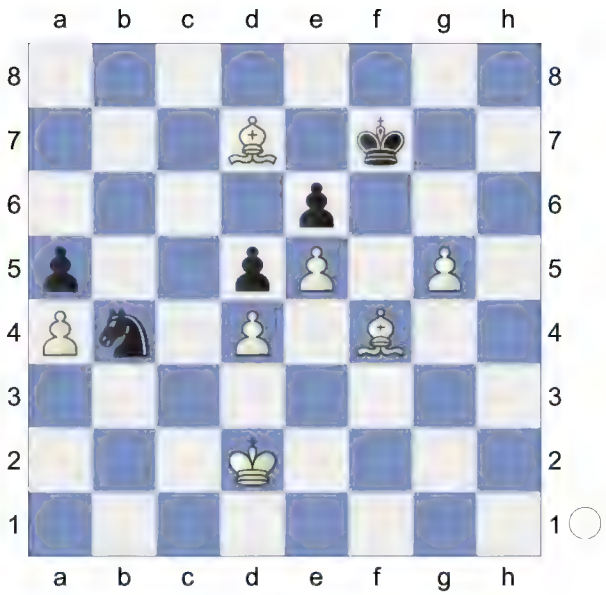
(Diagram)



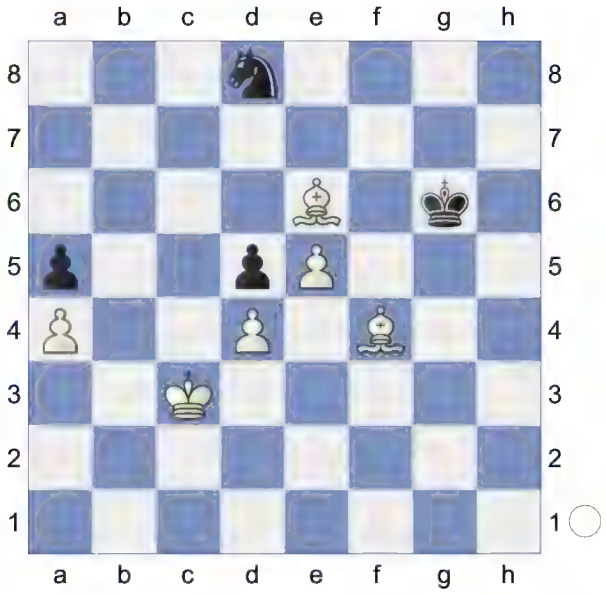
51.Bf4 2.49/27
[⌓51.Bd8 4.30/28]
51...Nc6 52.g5 1.67/23
[⌓52.Bc1 3.23/25]
52...Kg7 2.72/25
[52...Be8 1.67/23 was called for. 53.Bh5+ Kf8]
53.Bh5? 0.51/24
[53.Be2+- 2.72/25]
53...Be8? 14.75/24 This costs Black the game. **54.Bxe8 Nb4 55.Bd7 Na2+**



56.Kd3 Nb4+ 57.Kd2 Kf7
(Diagram)

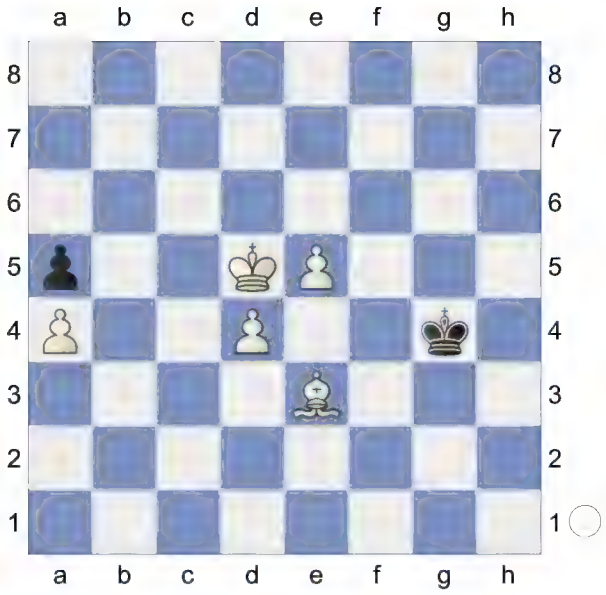


58.g6+! Kxg6
[58...Kg7 59.Bxe6]
59.Bxe6 White wants to mate with Be6-d7. **59...Nc6 60.Kc3 Nd8**

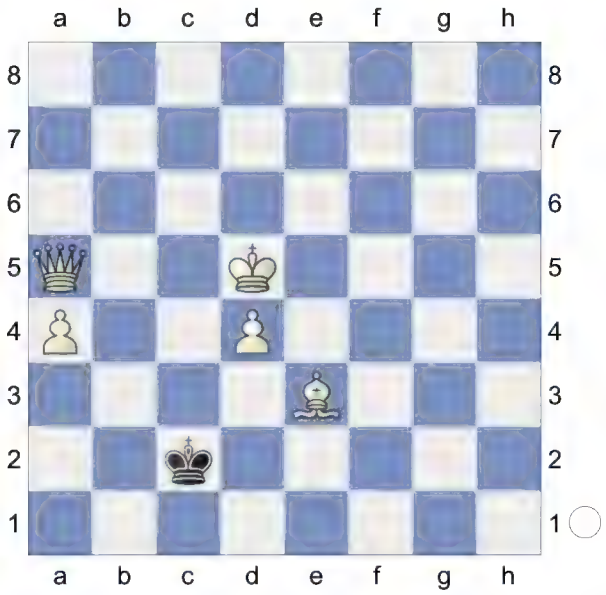


61.Bxd5 White mates. **61...Kf5 62.Be3 Ne6 63.Bxe6+ Kxe6** KB-KP **64.Kc4 Kf5 65.Kd5 Kg4**

(Diagram)

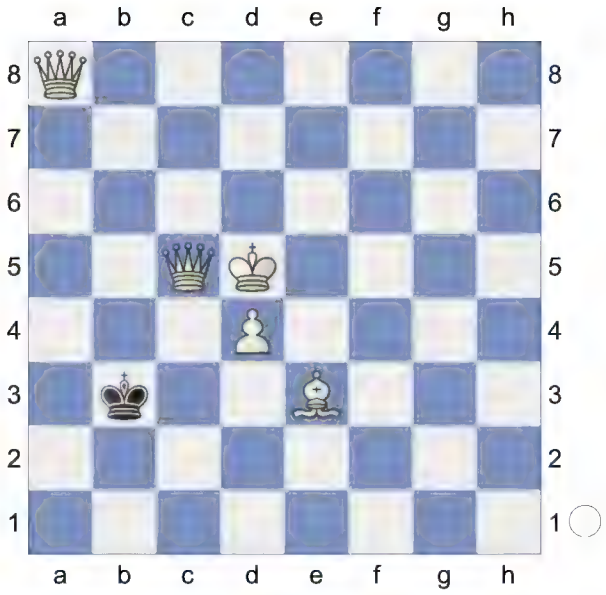


66.e6 Kf3 67.e7 Ke2 68.e8Q Kd3 69.Qb5+ Kc3 70.Qxa5+ Kc2

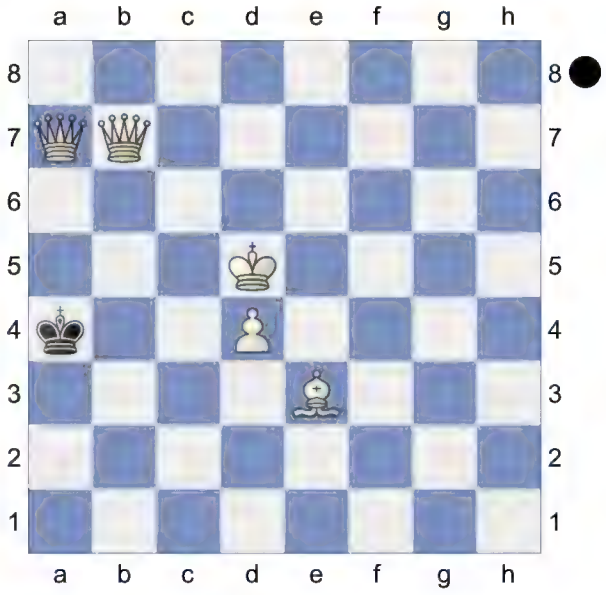


71.Qc5+ Kb3 72.a5 Ka4 73.a6 Kb3 74.a7 Kb2 75.a8Q Kb3

(Diagram)



76.Qb7+ Ka4 77.Qca7#

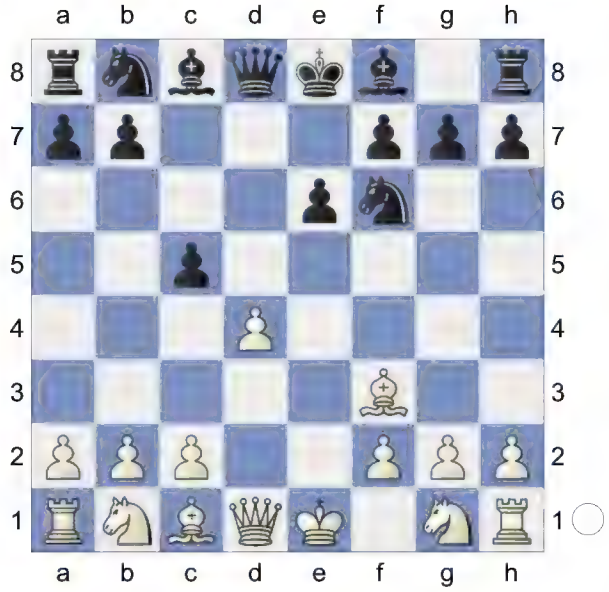


Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.38

1-0

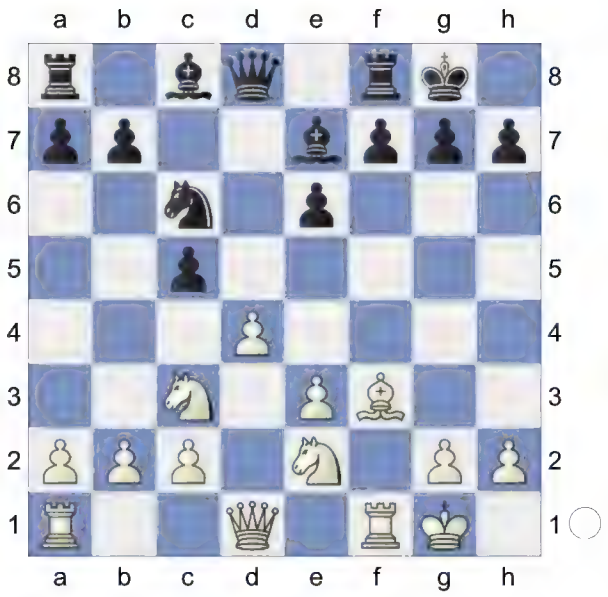
30 **C01**
□ **Kelevra317** **2871**
■ **Lee Yeon Sung** **2620**
Blitz 09.12.2021
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
We're gonna skip a few games where Onischuk won as the players he played were far beyond him and they brought nothing new, nothing extremely exciting. This game though is a Short n' Sweet. It's the European Blitz Championship of 2016. It was the day when Onischuk chose violence. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**



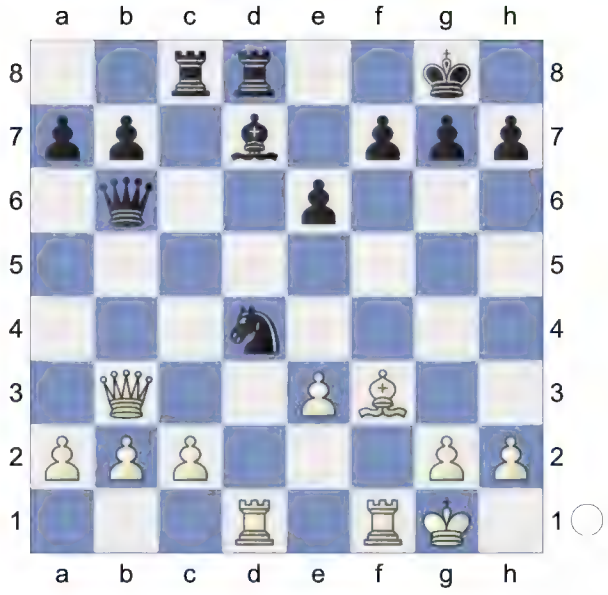
6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 Nd5 8.0-0N
[8.Bxd5 Qxd5 9.Nbc3
A) 9...Qxg2 10.Rg1 Qxh2 11.Bf4 Qh5 *(11...Qh3 12.Nb5 f6 13.Nc7+ Kf7 14.Nxa8 cxd4 15.Nxd4 Bb4+ 16.c3 Bxc3+ 17.bxc3 Qxc3+ 18.Bd2 Qxd4 19.Be3 Qe5 20.Rc1* 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-7...Nd5 #6*)* 12.Nb5 Ke7 13.Bd6+ Kf6 14.dxc5 e5 15.Nc7 Bxd6 16.Qxd6+ Be6 17.Nd5+ 1-0 Onischuk,V (2601)-Martinovic,S (2550) European Blitz 2016 (12. 24);
B) 9...Qd8 10.dxc5 Qxd1+ 11.Rxd1 Bd7 12.Nb5 0-0-0 13.c3 e5 14.0-0 Be7 15.Nd6+ Bxd6 16.cxd6 Be6 17.b3 b6 18.Rd2 Rd7 19.c4 Kb7 20.Nc3 Rc8 21.Rfd1 f5 22.f4 e4 23.Nb5 Nb4 24.Nc7 ½-½ (67) De,J (1593)-Balavignan,A Perth op 2023 (5) Bg8 25.c5 bxc5 26.Bxc5 Nd3 27.b4 Nxf4 28.Rf1 Ne6 29.Nxe6 Bxe6 30.g4 g6 31.g5 Rf8 32.Rf4 Rc8 33.Kf2 Rc6 34.Ke3 Ra6 35.Rff2 Ra3+ 36.Kf4 Bc4 37.b5 Rd3 38.Rxd3 Bxd3 39.Rb2 1-0 (67) Kiel (2276)-Descamps,T (2430) Lewisham 1983 (2);
C) 9...Qc4 10.b3 Qa6 11.dxc5 Be7 12.Qd3 Qa5 13.Qb5 Qa3 14.0-0 0-0 15.Ne4 Qb2 16.Qc4 e5 17.a3 Be6 18.Qd3 Rad8 19.Nd6 Bxd6 20.cxd6 e4 21.Qxe4 Bxb3 22.cxb3 Qxe2 1-0 (43) Arribas Lopez,A (2521)-Rozman,L (2394) Dallas UT Fall op 2016 (2)]
8...Be7 0.44/19
[Black should play 8...Nxe3= -0.29/18 9.fxe3 Be7]
9.Nbc3 -0.47/19
[9.Bxd5± 0.44/19 Qxd5 10.Nbc3]
9...Nxe3∓ 10.fxe3 0-0

(Diagram)

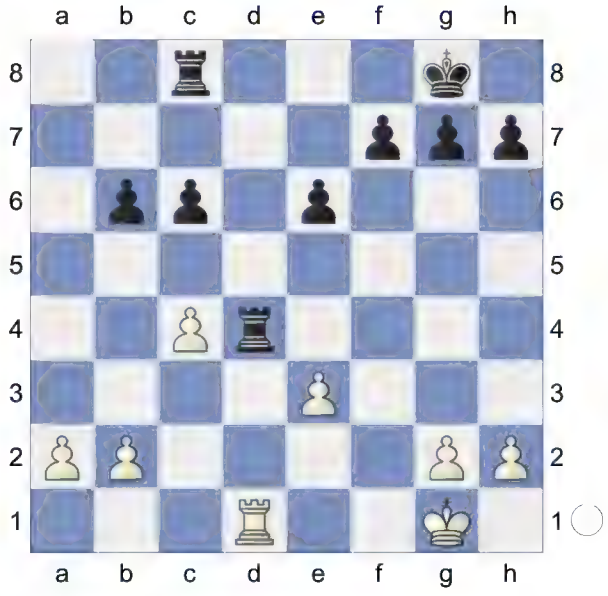


11.Ne4 -0.87/19
[11.d5= -0.26/16 remains equal. exd5 12.Bxd5]
11...Qb6 -0.39/17
[Better is 11...cxd4∓ -0.87/19 12.exd4 f5]
12.dxc5 -0.81/20
[12.Nxc5∓ -0.39/17 Bxc5 13.dxc5 Qxc5 14.Qc1]
12...Bxc5 13.Nxc5 Qxc5 14.Qd2 Rd8 15.Qc3 Qb6

16.Rad1 Bd7 17.Qb3 Qc7 18.Qc3 Repels Nc6-e5 **18...Qb6** -0.01/19
[18...Rac8∓ -0.55/18]
19.Nd4 -0.45/19
[19.Qb3= -0.01/19 feels stronger.]
19...Rac8 20.Qb3 Nxd4

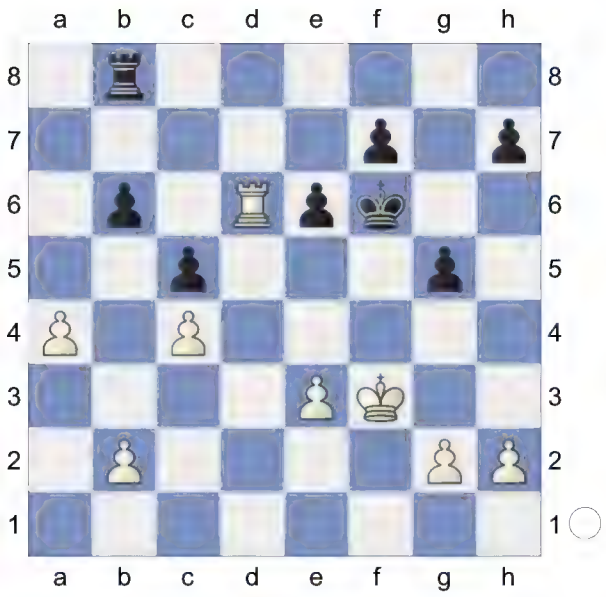


21.Rxd4 With the idea Rf1-d1. **21...Bc6 22.Qxb6 axb6 23.Bxc6 bxc6=** Endgame. KRR-KRR **24.Rfd1 Rd5 25.c4 Rxd4**

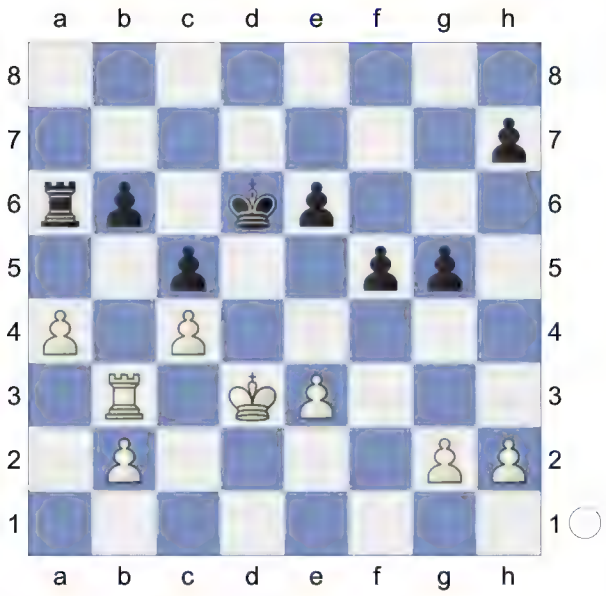


26.Rxd4 KR-KR **26...g5 27.a4 c5 28.Rd6 Rb8 29.Kf2 Kg7 30.Kf3 Kf6**

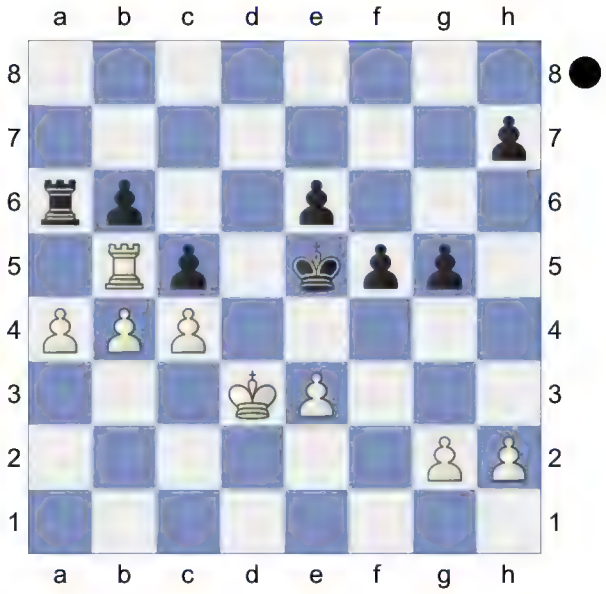
(Diagram)



31.Ke4 -0.37/24
[31.Rd7± 0.37/21]
31...Ke7∓ 32.Rd3 Ra8 33.Ra3 f5+ 0.56/22
[33...Kd6∓ -0.31/21]
34.Kd3 -0.65/21
[34.Ke5± 0.56/22]
34...Kd6 35.Rb3 Ra6 -0.46/20
[Of course not 35...Rxa4?! 36.Rxb6+ Ke5 37.Rb5=]
[35...Kc6∓ -0.85/22 36.Ra3 Kd6]

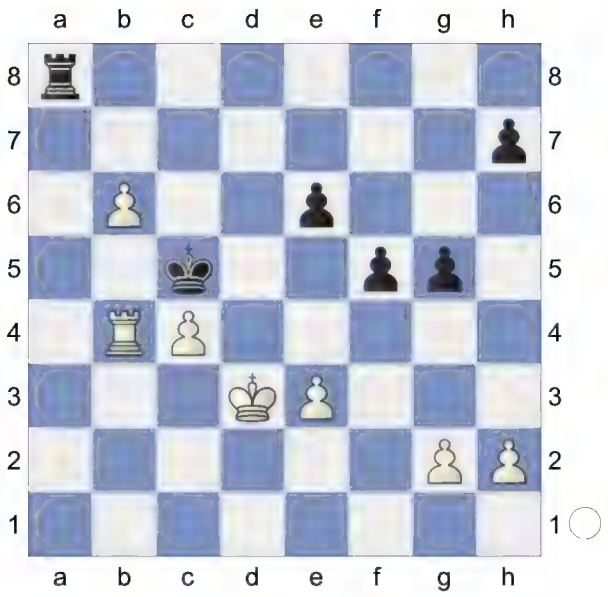


36.Rb5 Ke5 -0.01/22
[36...Kc6∓ -0.44/20 was preferrable. 37.b3 Ra8]
37.b4? -1.59/23
[37.a5= -0.01/22 Rxa5 38.Rxb6]

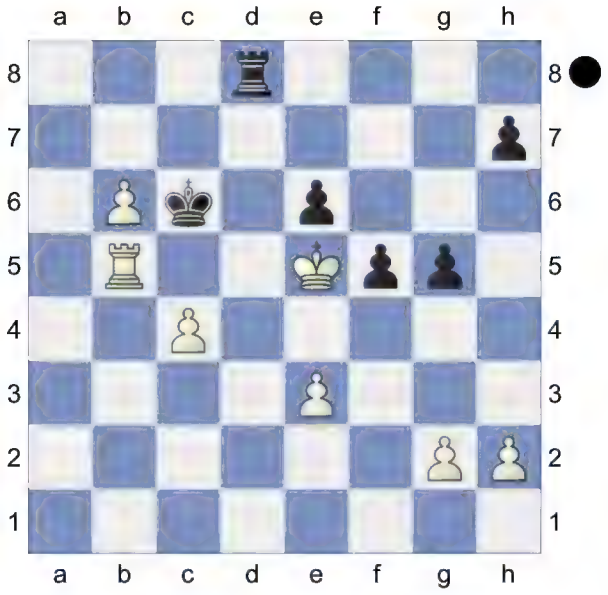


37...Kd6? 0.35/24
[37...Rxa4∓ -1.59/23 38.bxc5 Ra3+ 39.Kd2 bxc5 40.Rxc5+ Ke4]
38.a5 cxb4? 3.01/21 Black cannot hold the game after this.
[38...bxa5= 0.10/21 and Black is okay. 39.bxa5 *(39.Rxa5? is the wrong capture. Rxa5 40.bxa5 Kc7-+)* 39...e5]
39.axb6 Ra8 40.Rxb4 Kc5? 4.62/24
[40...e5 2.48/20 41.b7 Rb8]

(Diagram)



41.Rb5++- Kc6 42.Kd4 Rd8+ 43.Ke5



Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.52

1-0

31 **C01**

Zubov,Alexander **2974**

Campocaligne **2673**

Blitz 06.08.2021

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 Be7N

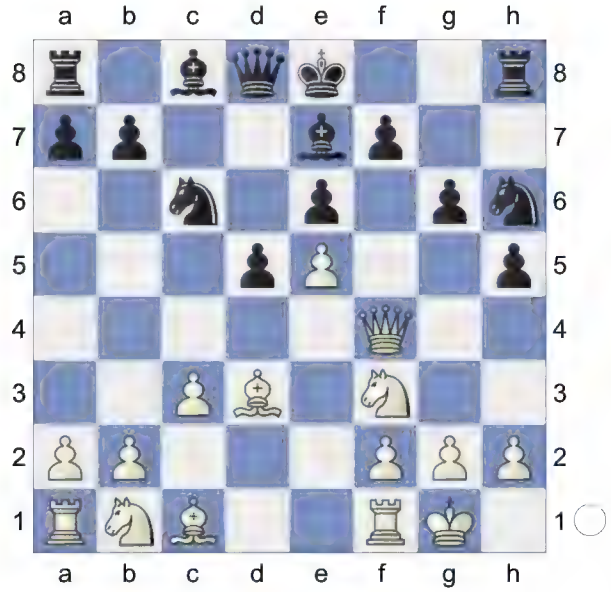
[3...dxe4 4.Bxe4 c5 *(4...Nf6 5.Bf3 c5 6.Ne2 Be7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nbc3 Nc6 9.Be3 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Ne5 11.Qe2 Qc7* Quickstarter Guide Other Sys-Schlechter*)* 5.Nf3 Nf6 6.Bd3 Nc6 7.c3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 *(8.cxd4 Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Nc3 b6 11.a3 Bb7 12.Bc2 Ba6 13.Re1 Qc7 14.Bg5 Rac8 15.Qd2 Rfd8 16.Rac1 Qb8 17.Bb1 Bb7 18.Qe3 h6 19.Bf4 Bd6 20.Ne5 Nxe5 21.dxe5 Bc5 22.Qh3 Bf8* 1-0 (48) N,N (2306)-Ozog,L (2003) USSR 42/(112) 1986*)* 8...Bd7 9.0-0 Nxd4 10.cxd4 Be7 11.Nc3 0-0 12.Qe2 Bc6 Christ,A-Hradetzky,H Germany ch-6 prel 5860 1958]

4.e5 c5 5.c3 Nc6

6.Qg4 g6 7.Nf3 h5 8.Qf4 The position is equal. **8...Nh6** 0.62/17

[8...cxd4= 0.25/18 9.Nxd4 *(9.cxd4 Nb4=)* 9...Nh6]

9.dxc5± Bxc5 10.0-0 Be7



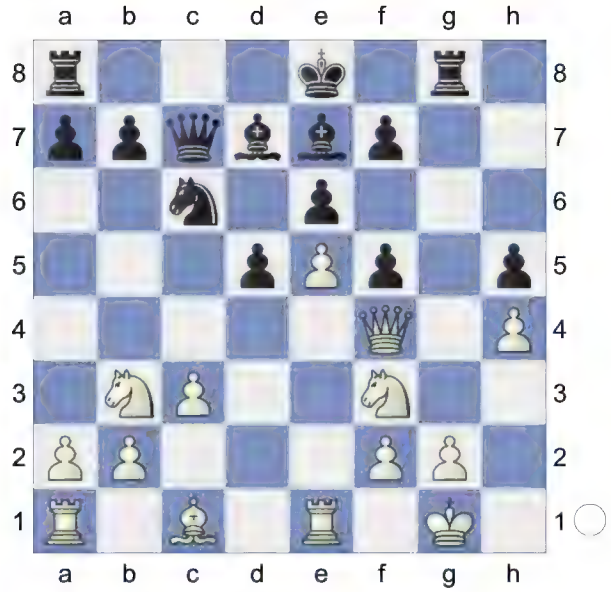
11.Nbd2 -0.01/19

[11.Re1± 0.61/18]

11...Bd7 0.52/18

[11...g5= -0.01/19 12.Qe3 Qc7]

12.Nb3 Nf5 13.Bxf5 gxf5 14.h4 Qc7 15.Re1 Rg8



16.Ng5 Nd8 1.03/20

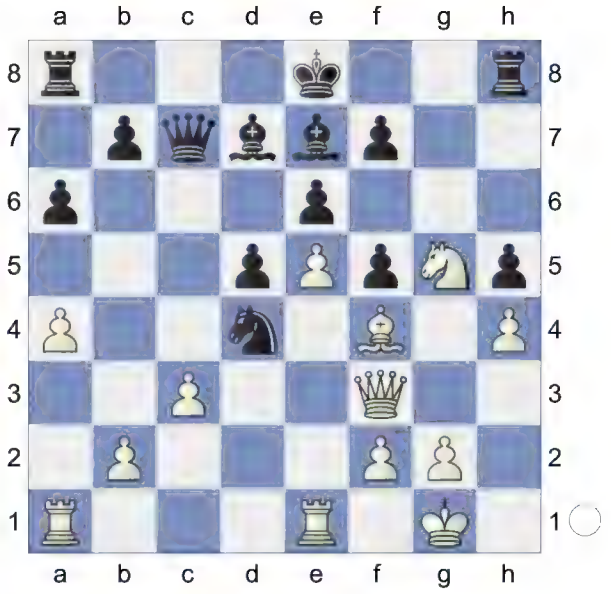
[16...a5± 0.46/18]

17.Qf3 Rh8 18.Nd4 a6 19.a4 0.62/19

White is much more active.

[19.Qg3± 1.24/20]

19...Nc6 20.Bf4 Nxd4



21.cxd4 Qb6 22.a5 -0.33/21

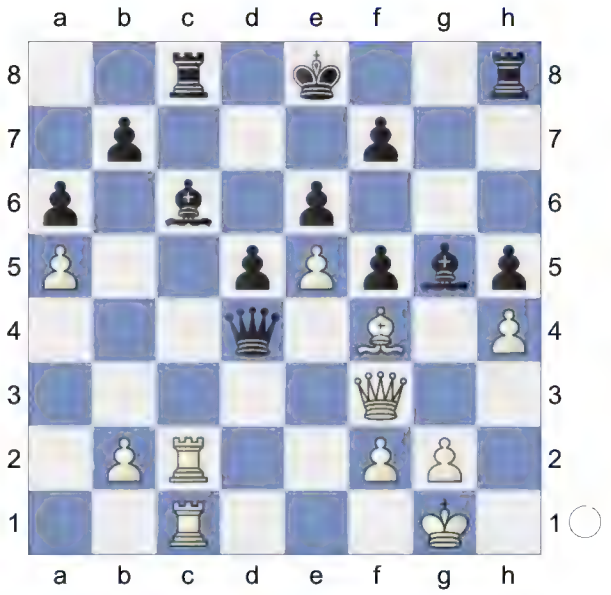
[22.Qe3± 0.69/18]

22...Qxd4∓ 23.Rac1 Bc6 24.Re2 -1.04/20

[24.Qg3∓ -0.66/18]

24...Rc8 25.Rec2 Bxg5 0.10/21

[25...Qa4∓ -0.69/22]

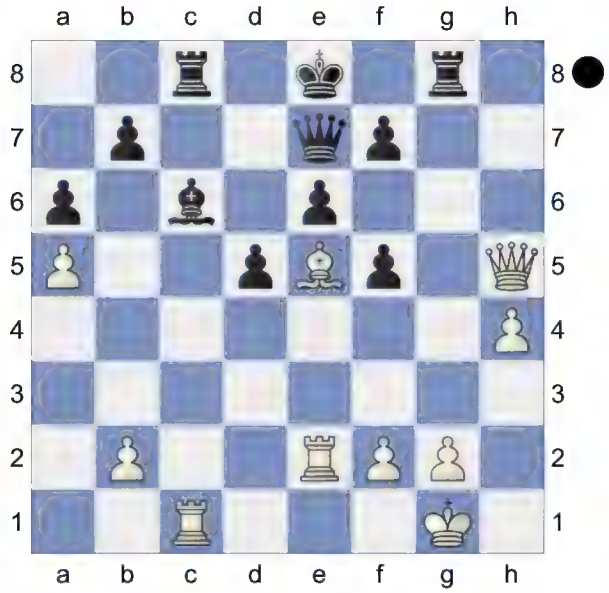


26.Bxg5= Strongly threatening Qf3-a3.

26...Qxe5 0.35/19

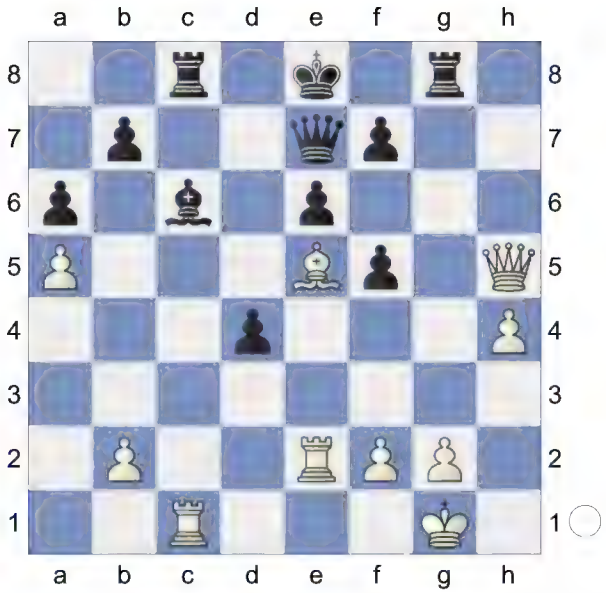
[26...Qb4= -0.01/20]

27.Re2± Qd6 1.64/18
[27...Qg7= 0.16/20]
28.Bf6? -0.90/22
[28.Qxf5+- 1.64/18 Rg8 29.Qh7]
28...Rg8 -0.51/20
[Better is 28...Rh6!∓ -0.90/22 29.Bg5 *(29.Qxf5 Kd7∓)* 29...Rg6]
29.Be5 -1.60/21
[29.Qxf5∓ -0.51/20 d4 30.f3]
29...Qe7 -0.93/19
[⌓29...Qb4! -1.60/21 Hoping for ...d5-d4. 30.Qxh5 Qg4 *(30...Qxa5? 31.Bc3+-)* 31.Qxg4 Rxg4]
30.Qxh5∓



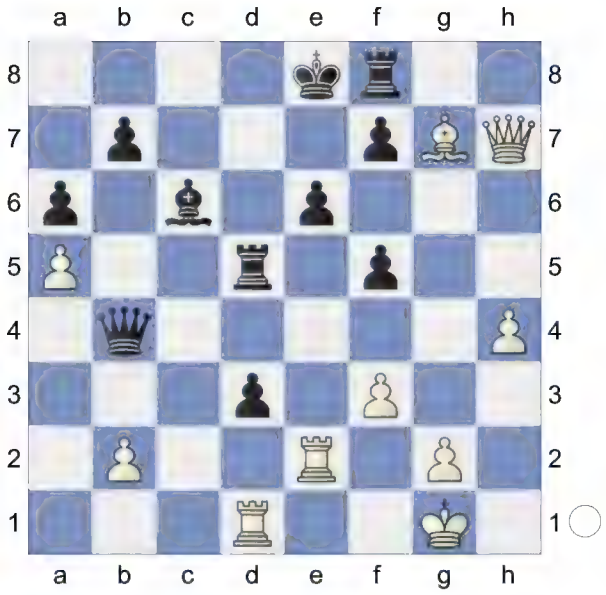
d4 -0.49/20

(Diagram)



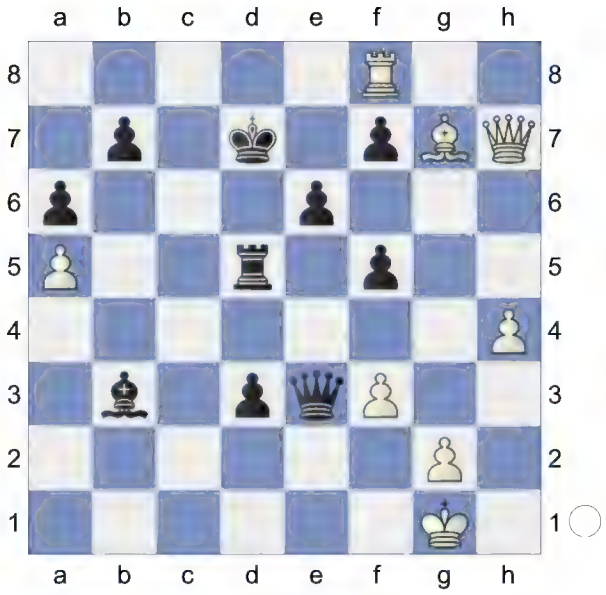
31.f3 Inhibits Rg8-g4. **31...Qb4** 0.61/20
[31...Rd8= -0.22/18]
32.Rd1? -1.80/20
[32.Bf4!± 0.61/20 Rg6 33.Qh8+ Kd7 34.Qe5]
32...Rd8?? 1.61/22
[32...Qb3-+ -1.80/20 33.Rc1 Ke7]
33.Bf6!+- White has strong compensation. **33...Rd5** 23.20/21
[33...Qb3 1.94/21 34.Rdd2 *(34.Rxd4? Rxd4 35.Kh2 Qc4-+; 34.Rde1 Qxf3 35.Rxe6+ Kd7±)* 34...Rd6 *(34...Bxf3? 35.Qh7+-)*]
34.Qh7? 0.01/21
[34.Rxe6++- 23.20/21 Kd7 35.Qxf7+ Kc8 36.Qxg8+ Kd7 37.Qe8+ Kc7 38.Re7+ Bd7 39.Rc1+ Qc3 40.bxc3]
34...Rf8? 1.74/20
[34...Qf8!= 0.01/21 and Black has nothing to worry.]
35.Bg7? 0.01/19
[35.Red2+- 1.74/20 f4 36.Kh2 *(36.Bxd4 Ba4=; 36.Rxd4 Rxd4 37.Bxd4 Qa4+-)*]
35...d3↑

(Diagram)

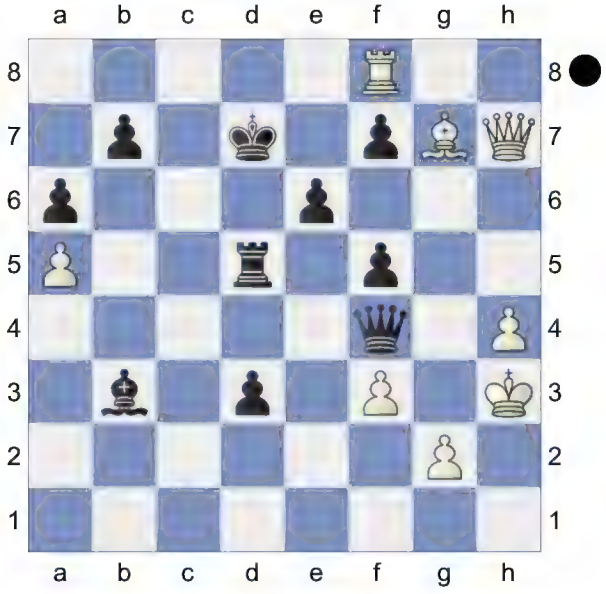


Black fights for an advantage. **36.Red2** -0.40/21
[36.Rf2!= -0.01/20]
36...Ba4∓ 37.b3 -1.40/19
[37.Bxf8∓ -0.48/22 Kxf8 *(37...Qd4+? 38.Kh1+-)* 38.Qh6+ Ke7 39.Rf1]
37...Bxb3∓
[37...Qxb3?! 38.Bxf8 Kxf8 39.Rc1=]
38.Rc1 -9.75/22
[38.Bxf8∓ -1.45/21 Kxf8 *(38...Qd4+ 39.Kh1+-)* 39.Qh6+ Ke7 40.Qg5+ Kd7 41.Rc1]
38...Qxd2-+ 39.Rc8+ Kd7 40.Rxf8 Qe3+

(Diagram)



41.Kh2 Qf4+? -1.39/21
[41...Rxa5? 42.Qh8 *(42.Rxf7+ Kc6=)* 42...Qf4+ 43.Kh3+-]
[41...d2-+ -8.08/20 42.Bc3 Qxc3 *(42...d1R 43.Qxf7+ Kd6 44.Rd8+ Kc5 45.Rc8+ Kb5 46.Qxb7+)* 43.Qxf7+ Kd6 44.Rd8+ Kc5 45.Rc8+ Kb4 46.Rxc3 Kxc3 *(46...d1R? 47.Rc7+-)* 47.Qf6+ Rd4 *(47...Kc2? 48.h5-+)*]
42.Kh3∓



d2!
[42...Rxa5? 43.Qh8 d2 44.Rd8+

Kc6 45.Rc8+ Kb5 46.Qe8+ Kb4 *(46...Kb6? 47.Qd8+ Kb5 48.Qd7+ Kb4 49.Bf8++-)* 47.Bf8++- *(47.Qxf7 d1Q 48.Bf8+ Ka4; 47.Qxf7 d1Q 48.Bf8+ Ka4)*]
[42...Kc6?! 43.Bh6 Qe5 44.Rxf7= *(44.Qxf7? d2-+)*]

43.Rxf7+? -4.55/22
[43.Bh6∓ -1.06/23 Qxh6 *(43...d1Q 44.Qxf7+ Kc6 45.Rc8+ Kb5 46.Qxb7+ Ka4 47.Bxf4±)* 44.Rxf7+ Kc6 45.Qxh6]

43...Kc6-+ 44.Bh6 d1Q? 1.32/19
[44...Qxf3+-+ -5.09/22 45.gxf3 d1Q 46.Rc7+ Kb5 47.Rxb7+ Ka4 48.Rxb3 Qxb3]

45.Bxf4± Qh1+

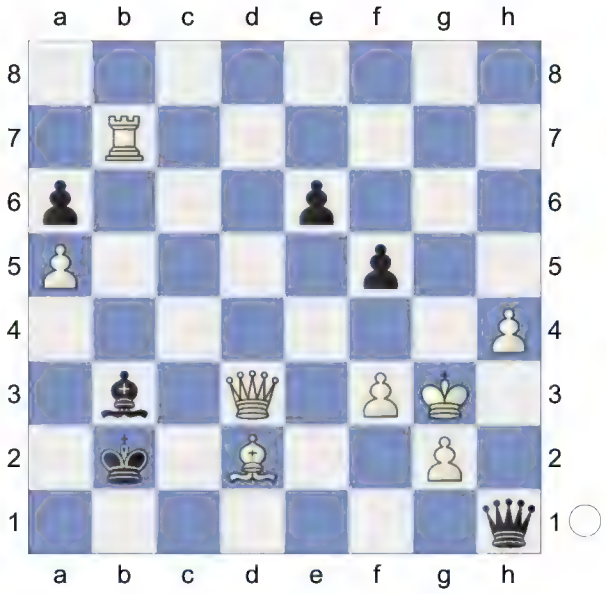
46.Kg3 0.84/20
[46.Bh2+- 1.95/23 has better winning chances. Rd3 47.Qg6 *(47.Rxb7 Rxf3+ 48.gxf3 Qxf3+ 49.Bg3 Qh1+ 50.Bh2 Qf3+ 51.Bg3 Qg4+ 52.Kh2 Qe2+ 53.Kg1 Qd1+ 54.Kh2 Qe2+ 55.Kg1 Qd1+ 56.Kh2 Qe2+=)*]

46...Rd2? #10/21 **47.Bxd2** 15.88/18
[⌓47.Rc7+ #10/21 Kb5 48.Bxd2 f4+ 49.Kf2 *(49.Kxf4 Qh2+ 50.Ke4 Bd5+ 51.Kd3 Qd6+-)* 49...Ka4 50.Qe7 *(50.Bxf4 b6+-)* 50...Qxh4+ 51.Qxh4 Bc4 52.Qxf4 *(52.Rxc4+ Kb3 53.Rc3+ Ka4 54.Qxf4+ Kb5 55.Qc4+ Kxa5 56.Rb3#)*]

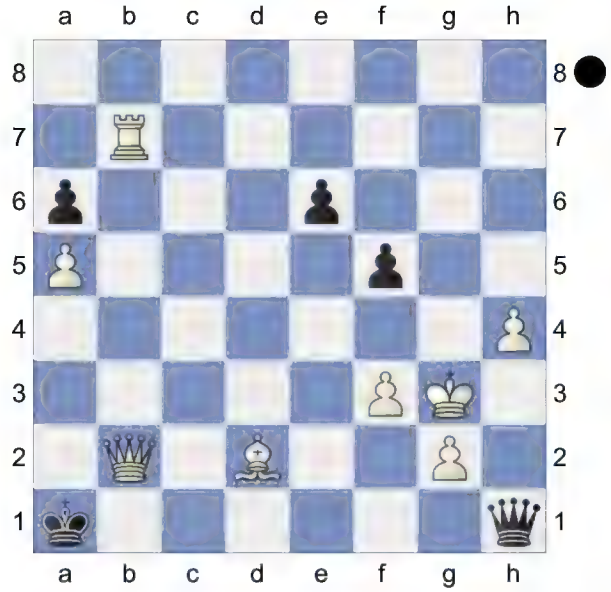
47...Kb5 48.Rxb7+ Ka4 49.Qd7+ 17.48/5
[⌓49.Qe7 #7/16 f4+ 50.Kf2 *(50.Kxf4 Qh2+ 51.Ke4 Bc2+ 52.Kd4 Qg1+ 53.Kc3 Qa1+ 54.Rb2 Qa3+ 55.Qxa3+ Kxa3)* 50...Qxh4+ 51.Qxh4 Ka3 52.Qxf4 *(52.Bxf4 Kb2 53.Be5+ Kc1 54.Rc7+ Bc2 55.Qd4 Kb1 56.Qb2#)* 52...Kb2 53.Qc4 *(53.Bc1+ Kb1 54.Qd2 e5 55.Qb2#)* 53...Kb1 54.Rxb3+ Ka2 55.Qa4#]

49...Ka3+- 50.Qd3 19.21/26
[⌓50.Bb4+ #7/16 Ka2 51.Qd2+ Kb1 52.Bc3 *(52.Bd6 f4+ 53.Bxf4 Qe1+ 54.Qxe1+ Kc2 55.Qe2+* Deflection *Kb1 56.Rxb3+ Ka1 57.Be5#)* 52...f4+ 53.Kg4 *(53.Kxf4 Qxh4+ 54.Ke3 Qg5+ 55.f4 Qc5+ 56.Ke2 Qh5+ 57.Kf1 Qh1+ 58.Kf2 Qh4+ 59.Kg1 Qe1+ 60.Qxe1+ Kc2 61.Qd2+* Deflection *Kb1 62.Rxb3#)* 53...Qxg2+ 54.Qxg2 Kc1 55.Qd2+ Kb1 56.Rxb3#]

50...Kb2



51.Qxb3+ Ka1 52.Qb2#



Weighted Error Value: White=0.73/ Black=0.95

1-0

32 **C01**

□ **Evg85** **2848**

■ **Kasparik Garik** **2662**

Blitz 07.08.2021

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Bd6

(Diagram)

6.Ne2 0-0

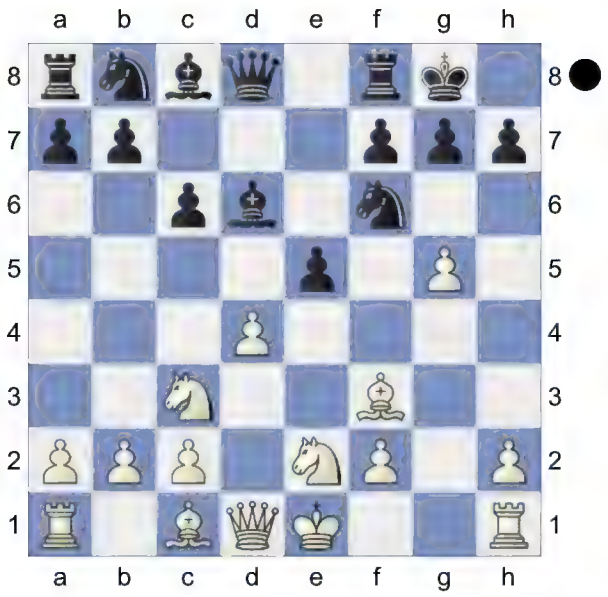
[6...Nbd7 7.Nbc3 c6 8.0-0 0-0 9.g3 e5 10.d5 cxd5 11.Nxd5 Nxd5 12.Bxd5 Nf6 13.Bg2 h6 14.Nc3 a6 15.Qe2 Qc7 16.Ne4 Nxe4 17.Bxe4 Bd7 18.Rd1 Bc6 19.c3 Bxe4 20.Qxe4 Rad8 21.Be3 1-0 (55) Pichot,A (2638)-Urbina Perez,J (2274) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st Feb Late blitz 2023 (2)]

7.Nbc3 c6N

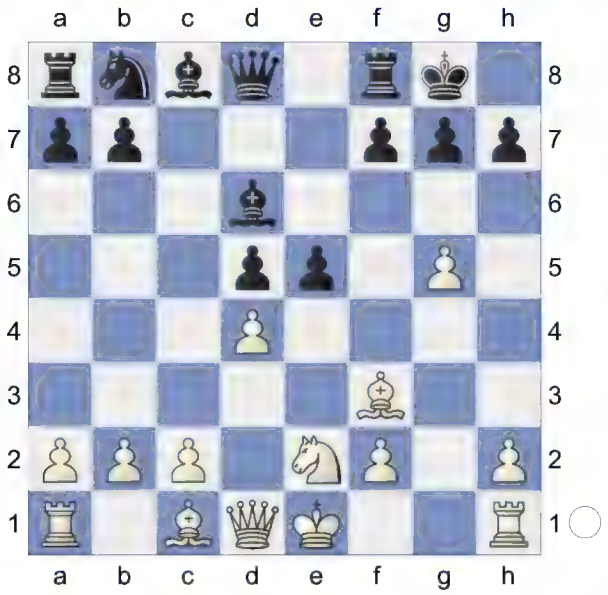
[7...c5 8.0-0 cxd4 9.Nxd4 a6 10.Be3 Qc7 11.g3 Rd8 12.Qe2 e5 13.Nb3 Be6 14.Rfd1 Nc6 15.Bg5 Be7 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Nd5 Bxd5 18.Bxd5 Nd4 19.Nxd4 exd4 20.Bb3 a5 21.a4 g6 22.Rd3 ½-½ (37) Yildiz Kadioglu,B (2314)-Socko,M (2422) Olympiad Women-45 2024 (5.6)]

8.g4 The position is equal. **8...e5 9.g5**

(Diagram)

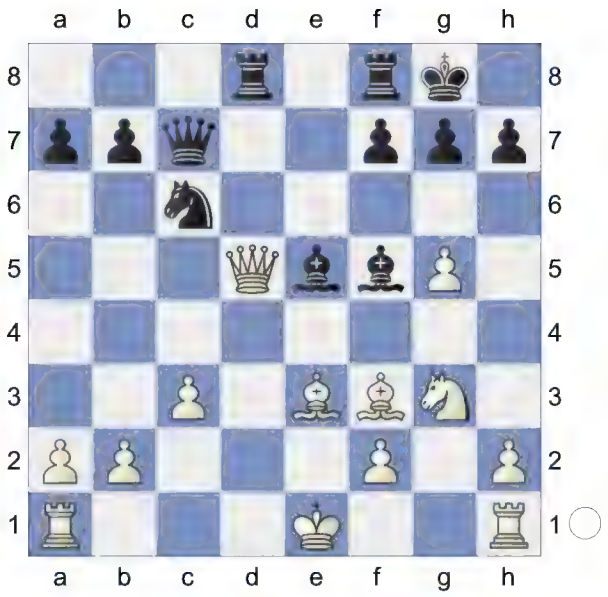


And now d4xe5 would win. **9...Nd5!**
10.Nxd5 cxd5

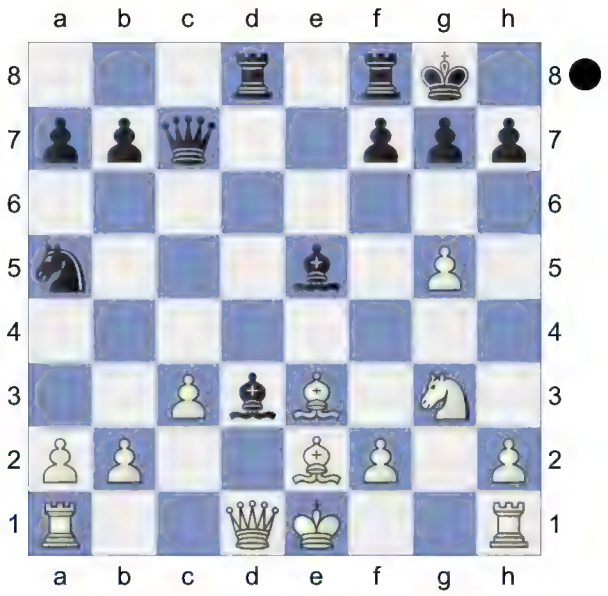


11.dxe5 Bxe5 12.Qxd5 Qc7 13.c3 -0.47/18
[13.Bd2!= 0.01/19 deserves consideration.]
13...Nc6∓ Black has compensation.
14.Be3 Bf5 15.Ng3 Rad8

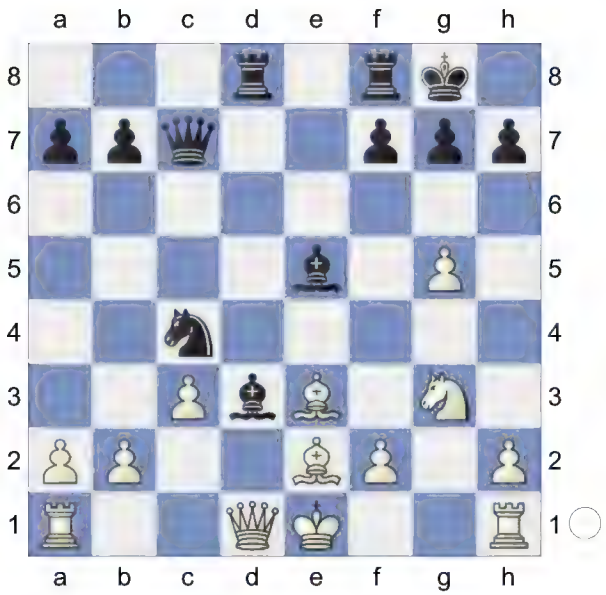
(Diagram)



16.Qb3 -1.75/20
[16.Qc5∓ -1.12/21 Bd3 17.Ne4]
16...Bd3 -0.76/18
[16...Be6-+ -1.75/20 17.Qa3 Bh3]
17.Be2 -1.71/21
[17.Bxc6∓ -0.76/18 Qxc6 18.0-0-0]
17...Na5 18.Qd1 -3.04/22
[18.Qb4 -1.65/20 was necessary. Bxg3 19.Bxd3 *(19.hxg3? Nc4-+)* 19...Rxd3 *(19...Bxf2+? 20.Bxf2 Rxd3 21.0-0∓)* 20.hxg3]



18...Nc4? -0.52/21



Weighted Error Value: White=0.40/ Black=0.14 (very precise)
0-1

33 **C01**
□ **Tiktok Jr** **2903**
■ **Banned Delapan** **2601**
Blitz 29.12.2019
[Kitty Kat]

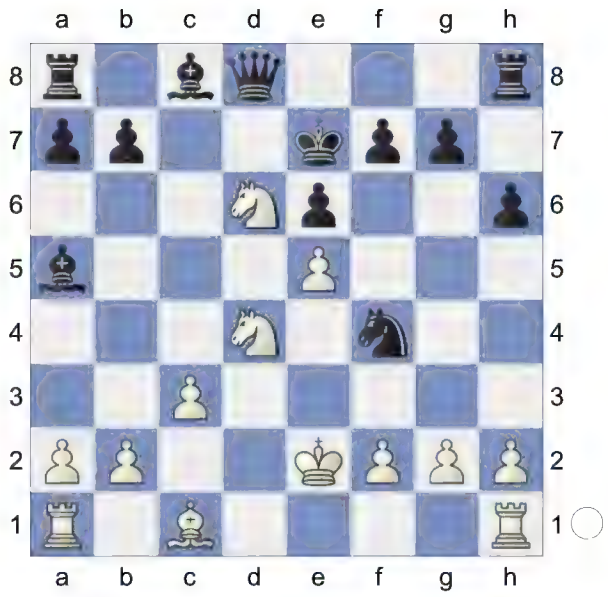
Blitz 4min+2sec
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 Nf6 4.e5 Ne4N
[4...Nfd7 5.Ne2 *(5.Bf4 c5 6.c3 Qb6 7.Nf3 Nc6 8.Bc2 cxd4 9.cxd4 Bb4+ 10.Nc3 f6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Kh1 Be7 13.a3 a6 14.Qd3 g6 15.Bh6* 1-0 Staller,P (2162)-9.00 ♗g7 10.c4 00 11.♗e3 (1858) (ch) 52/122 Great Britain 1991 (2)*)* 5...c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.a3 cxd4 *(7...Qb6 8.b4 cxb4 9.axb4 Be7 10.0-0 0-0 11.Nf4 Re8 12.Qh5 Nf8 13.Re1* B6-B6*; 7...f6 8.Nf4 Qe7 9.exf6 Qxf6 10.0-0 cxd4 11.Nxe6 Qxe6 12.Re1 Nde5 13.Bf4 dxc3 14.Bxe5 Nxe5 15.Qh5+ g6 16.Qxe5 Qxe5 17.Rxe5+ Kf7 18.Nxc3 d4 19.Ne4* 3. 3...Nf6-3...Nf6 #10 *)* 8.cxd4 f6 9.f4 Be7 10.Nd2 0-0 11.Nf3 Nb6 12.0-0 Bd7 13.Kh1 3. 3...Nf6-3...Nf6 #11]
5.Qe2 h6

6.Bxe4 dxe4 7.Qxe4 Bb4+ 0.91/17
[7...c5± 0.55/18 is superior.]
8.c3± White is better. **8...Ba5** 1.41/17
[Black should try 8...Be7 0.91/18]
9.Nf3 White is more active. **9...Na6** 2.02/18
[9...Bb6± 1.38/16 10.Qg4 Kf8]
10.Nbd2 c5

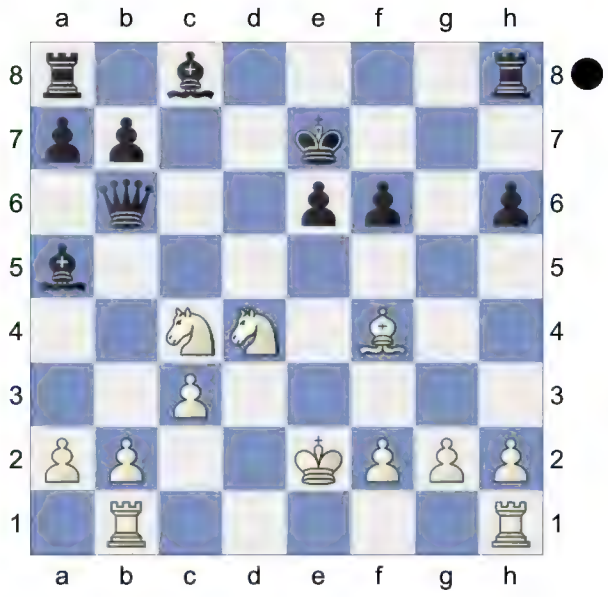
(Diagram)

11.Nc4 cxd4 2.16/19
[11...Bc7± 1.45/17 was worth a try. 12.Qg4 Kf8]
12.Nd6++- Zwischenzug
[12.Qxd4 Qxd4 13.Nxd4 Bc7]
12...Ke7 2.37/16
[12...Kf8 1.70/18 was necessary. 13.Nxd4 *(13.Qxd4 Kg8±)* 13...Bc7]
13.Nxd4 Excellent horsemanship.
13...Nc5 4.35/18
[13...Bc7 2.43/16 was called for. 14.N4b5 *(14.Nxb7 Qd5+-)* 14...Bxd6]
14.Qf4?? -4.59/15
[14.Qf3+- 4.35/18 and all is fine. Qf8 15.b4]
14...Nd3+-+ 15.Ke2 Nxf4+

(Diagram)

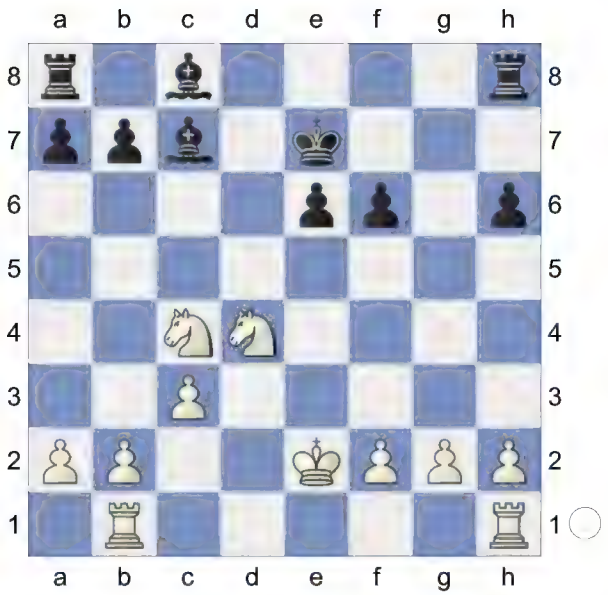


16.Bxf4 Qb6 17.Rab1 f6 18.exf6+ gxf6 19.Nc4

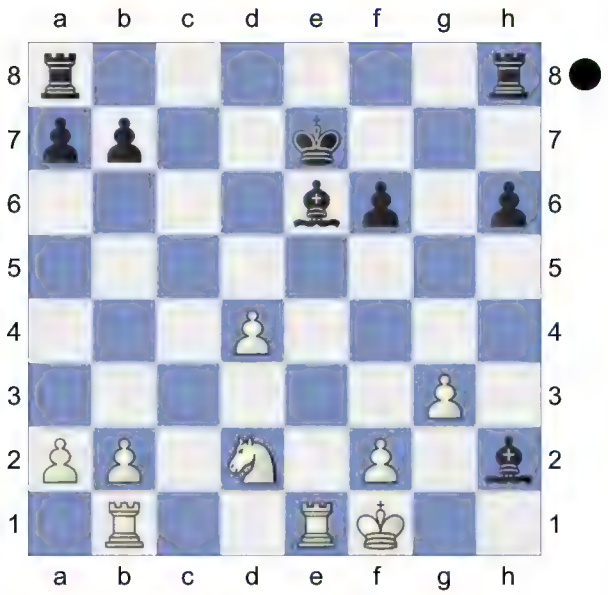


Qc7 0.61/20 **20.Bxc7± Bxc7**

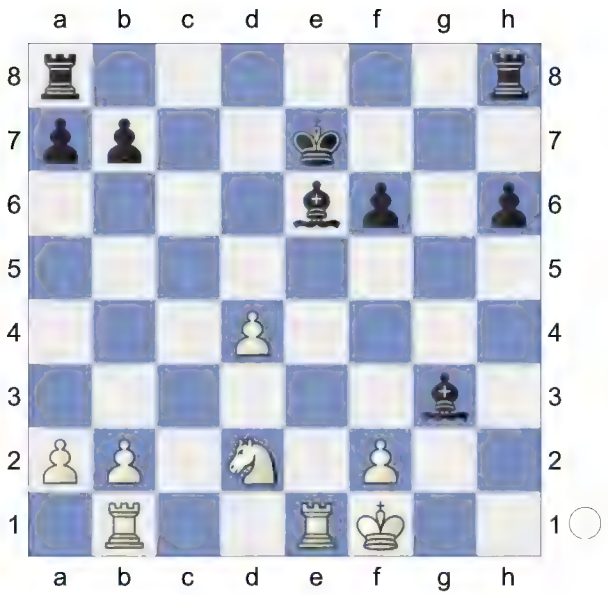
(Diagram)



21.Rhe1 e5 22.Kf1 Be6 0.73/19
[22...Bd7= 0.02/18]
23.Nd2? -3.27/19
[23.Nxe6± 0.73/19 Kxe6 24.f4]
23...exd4-+ 24.cxd4 Bxh2? 0.69/21
[24...Rad8-+ -3.28/19 ...Ke7-f7! would now be deadly. 25.Rbc1 Bb6 *(25...Bxh2 26.g3∓)*]
25.g3? -0.97/19
[25.d5± 0.69/21 stays ahead. Be5 26.dxe6]

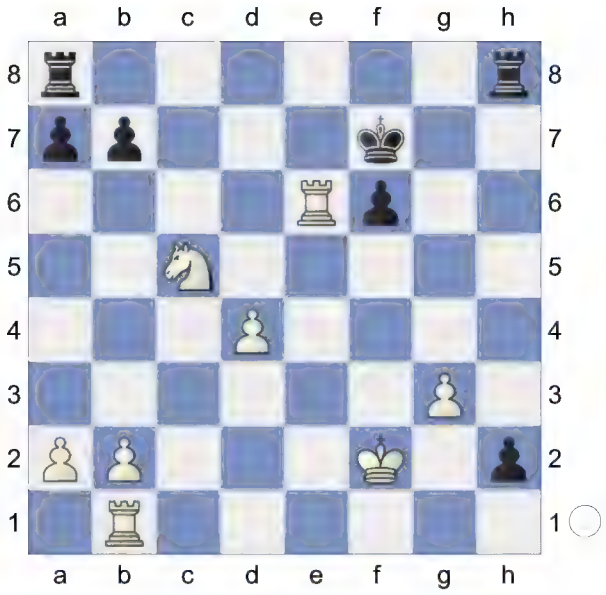


25...Bxg3 -0.37/21

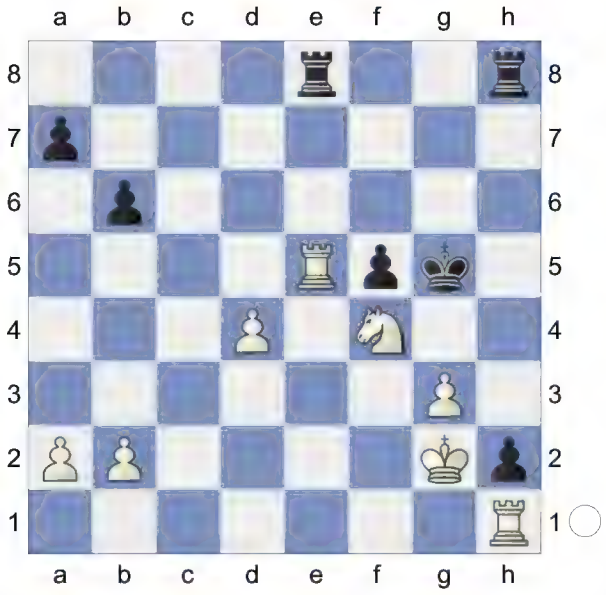


26.fxg3∓ h5? 4.44/19
[26...Rhd8∓ -0.40/19]
27.Ne4? -0.01/19
[White must play 27.d5+- 4.44/19]
27...h4? 3.00/19
[27...Bxa2 28.Nc3+ *(28.Rbc1 Kd8=)* 28...Kd7 *(28...Be6? 29.d5+-* Pin *)* 29.Nxa2+-]
[27...Bg4= -0.01/19 and Black is okay.]
28.Nc5!+- Discovered Attack, Double Attack **28...h3?** 5.13/19
[28...b6 3.11/18 keeps fighting. 29.Nxe6 Rag8 30.Nf4+ Kd7 31.gxh4 Rxh4]
29.Rxe6+ Kf7 30.Kf2? 1.04/18
[30.Rbe1+- 4.63/17 has better winning chances.]
30...h2? 3.22/20
[30...b6± 1.04/18 might work better.]

(Diagram)

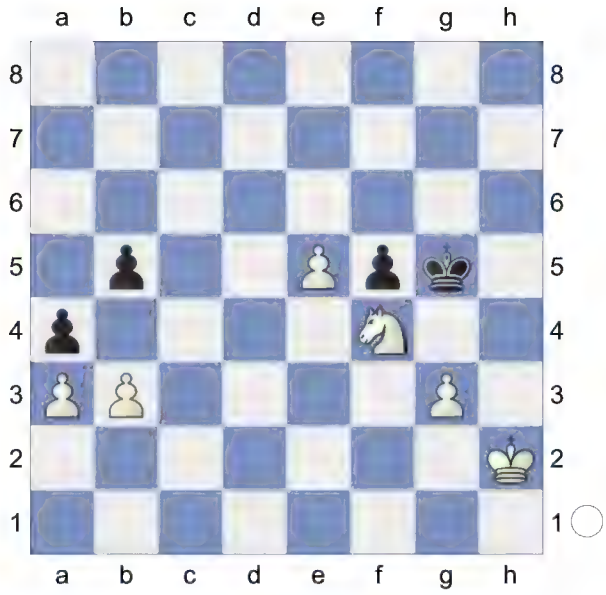


31.Rh1 1.65/19
[⌓31.Ree1 3.22/20]
31...f5? 5.25/21
[31...b6 1.65/19 is tougher.]
32.Re5 b6 33.Nd3 Kg6 34.Nf4+ Kg5 35.Kg2 Rae8

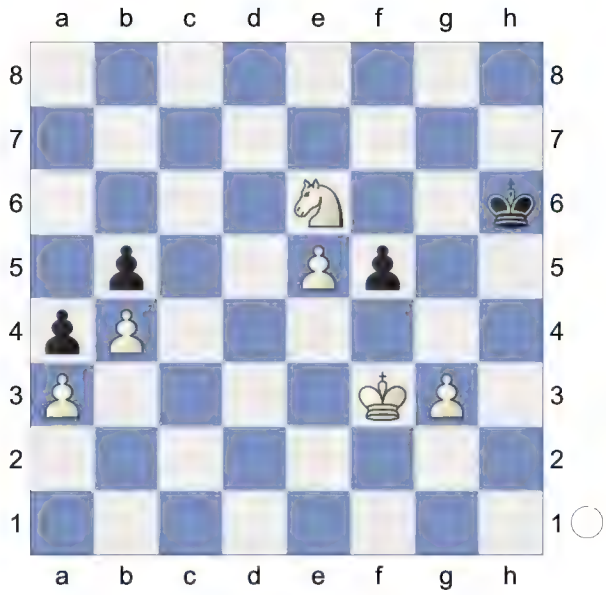


36.Rxh2 Rxh2+ 37.Kxh2 Rxe5 38.dxe5 Endgame. KN-K3P **38...a5 39.b3 b5 40.a3** White mates. **40...a4**

(Diagram)

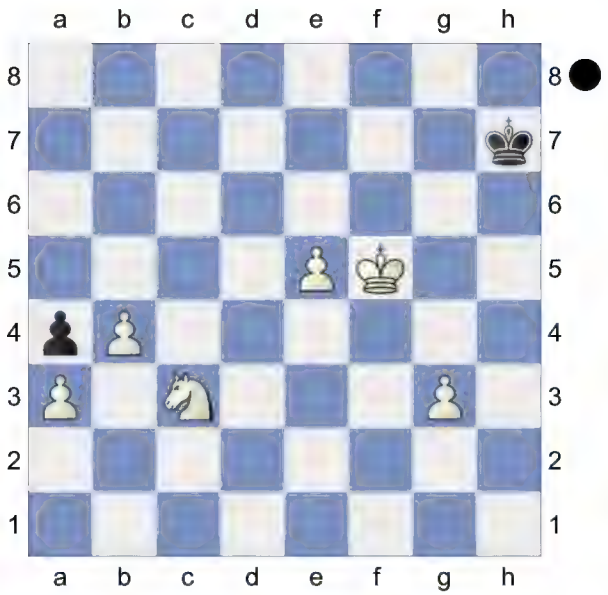


41.b4 Kh6 42.Kh3 Kg5 43.Kg2 Kh6 44.Kf3 Kg5 45.Ne6+ Kh6



46.Kf4 Kh7 47.Nd4 Kh8 48.Nxb5 Kg8 49.Kxf5 Kh7 50.Nc3

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=1.04/ Black=1.53
1-0

34 **C01**
□ **Onischuk,V** **2620**
■ **Bartel,Mateusz** **2616**
World Rapid 2021 (5.20) 26.12.2021
[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

World Rapid 2021. A huge even in which Onischuk finished with 8/13 points. 2 GMs with about an equal strenght, let's see how Onischuk snatched the win here.
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Nbd7

(Diagram)

We've seen this line a few games ago, GM Jiri Stocek played it against Onischuk also in a Rapid event if you remember. It was shown earlier in the study. **6.Nc3 Rb8?!** If you remember, in the game against Stocek, Stocek played an inaccuracy with e5. We can say that Bartel didn't do his homework because this also isn't a good move. The point is that he wants to play b5 and Bb7 to get rid of white's f3 bishop, which is interesting but not good.

[6...Bb4 Just like in the Stocek game, this is the best move. I won't explain it again since I don't feel that's necessary as I already did in that game.]

[6...Bd6 7.Nb5 0-0 *(7...Bb4+ 8.c3 a6 9.Nxc7+ Qxc7 10.cxb4 e5 11.Nh3 e4 12.Be2 Nd5 13.Bd2 N7f6 14.Rc1 Qd6 15.Qb3 0-0 16.Qg3 Qb6* 6) Odds and Ends-The Schlechter Variation The Aggressive French 2024*)* 8.Ne2 Bb4+ 9.c3 Ba5 10.0-0 c6 11.Nd6 Bc7 12.Nxc8 Rxc8 13.g3 e5 14.Bg2 Re8 15.a4 a6 16.Qb3 Rb8 17.Qc2 Qe7 18.dxe5 Nxe5 19.Nd4 Nd5 20.Bd2

Nc4 21.Rae1 1-0 (39) 6.♗e3 b6 7. Bc4 54459 (2608)-Brkic,V (2566) USSR 15/428 1973 (4.1)]

7.Nge2 Trying to jump to g3. **7...b5N**

[7...Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Qd3 a6 10.a4 c5 11.dxc5 Nxc5 12.Qxd8 Rxd8 13.Bf4 Ra8 14.a5 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-5...Nbd7 6. Nc3 #7]

8.Ng3 White has an edge. **8...Bb7 9.0-0**

[9.Nxb5?? -1.38/19 9.Bf3xb7 0.29 No, you cannot take the pawn obviously. Bxf3-+]

9...Be7? 0.68/19 Here though, this is a mistake because of Bxb7! and then d5.

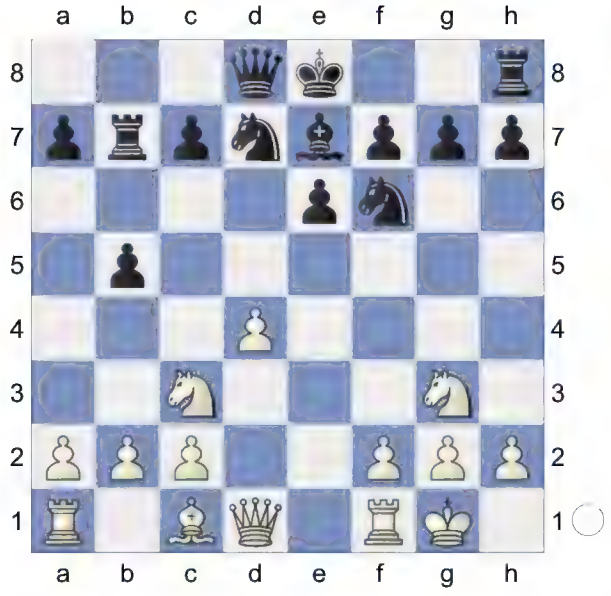
[9...b4 Don't know what Bartel didn't like about b4. Here after 10.Bxb7 Rxb7 11.Nce4 Be7= now there is no d4 as the knight isn't on c3 anymore and doesn't support it.]

[9...Bxf3= 0.20/20 10.Qxf3 Be7]

10.Bxb7±

[10.Nxb5? Bxf3 11.Qxf3 Rxb5-+]

10...Rxb7



11.d5 This is now possible as the knight on c3 supports d5. **11...0-0?** 1.10/19 This is an even bigger mistake as now after dxe6, you open up your rook but that weakness on e6 is just huge as we'll see shortly.

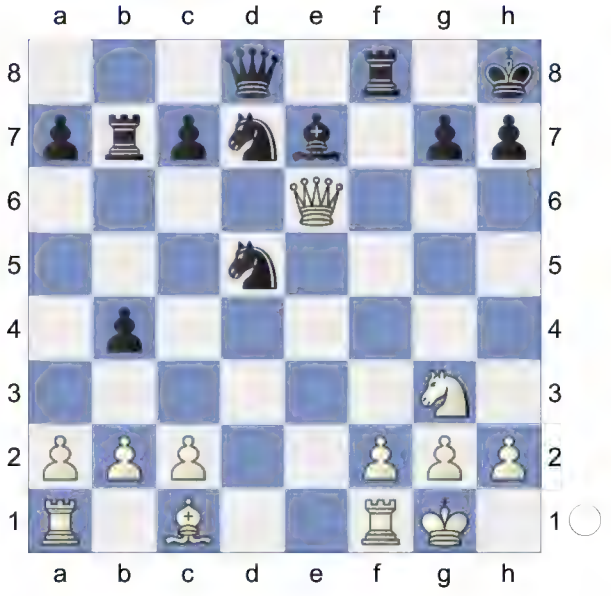
[11...b4 This might look like black will be better and it's the best move, but after 12.dxe6! fxe6 13.Nce4± e6 is weak and b4 is just an over pushed pawn.]

[11...Nc5± 0.69/21 should be considered.]

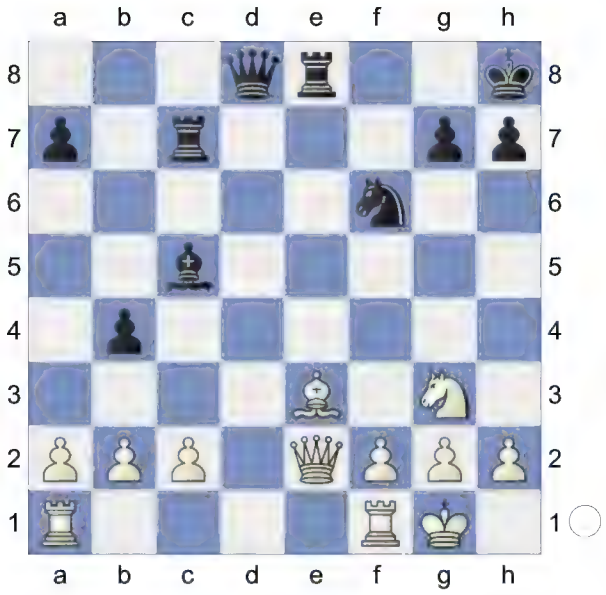
12.dxe6± fxe6 13.Qe2! Black cannot defend both pawns. **13...b4**

[13...Nc5 1.36/20 13...b5-b4 1.00 This maybe would've been better, but after 14.Nxb5 h5 15.Bg5 a6 16.Rad1 Qe8 17.Nd4 the e6 pawn is just to weak. If black tries to defend it with. b2-b3 would now be deadly. Bd6 2.16/19 *(17...Rxb2± 0.97/20 18.Nxe6 Nxe6 19.Qxe6+ Qf7 20.Qxa6 Rxc2)* 18.Bxf6+- Rxf6 19.Nxh5+- and white has an unstoppable attack. Black can resign here.]

14.Qxe6+ Kh8 15.Nd5 White is much more active. **15...Nxd5**



16.Qxd5 And now white is just up a pawn. **16...c6** Yes, black has to give up a pawn to protect the rook. **17.Qxc6 Rc7 18.Qe4 Nf6 19.Qe2 Bc5 20.Be3 Re8**



It might look like Bartel has compensation for the pawns, but the truth is he has absolutely nothing. **21.Rad1 Qc8 22.Qf3 Bf8?** 1.93/20 And here he even makes a mistake by retreating instead of trading.

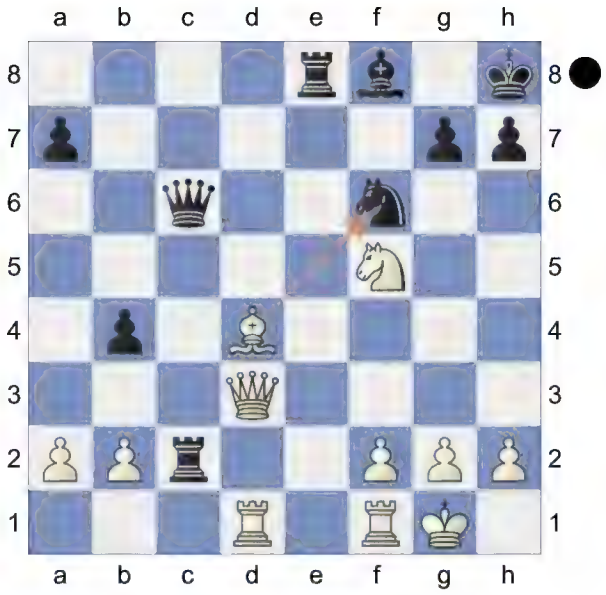
[22...Bxe3 23.fxe3 Rxc2± He should've done this as now he actually gets some counterplay. Yes, Bartel would've still been worse, but he has something and white has to be a bit careful.]

[22...Bxe3± 0.53/23 23.fxe3 Rxc2]

23.Bd4+- Rxc2 24.Nf5 Qc6 25.Qd3↑

[25.Bxa7 Qxf3 26.gxf3 Rxb2=]

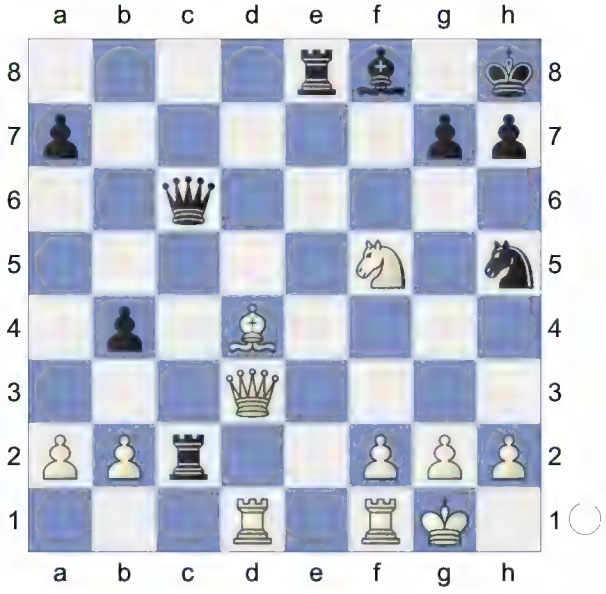
(Diagram)



Strongly threatening Bd4xf6! White has strong initiative. **25...Nh5** 4.39/20

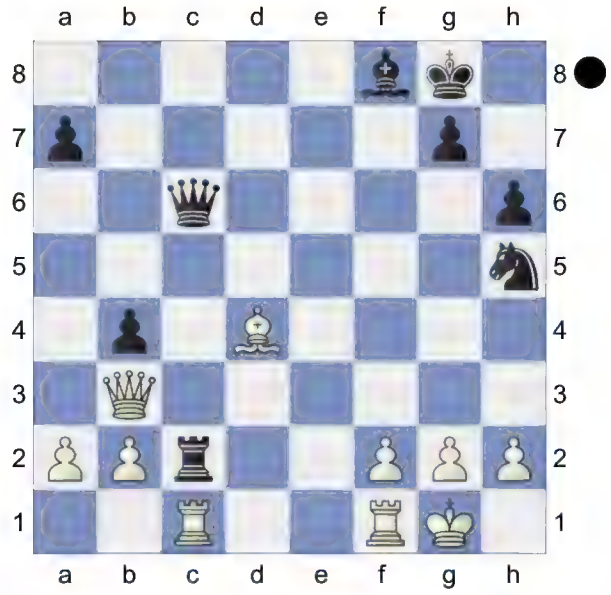
[25...Qe4 This would've been better, as after 26.Qxe4 Nxe4 27.Ne3 0.91/21 doesn't trap the rook and it can get out. *(⌓27.Rfe1 1.27/20)* 27...Rc7±]

[25...Qe4± 1.35/23 26.Ne3 *(26.Bxa7 Qxd3 27.Rxd3 Rxb2=)* 26...Qxd3 27.Rxd3 Rc6]



This just blunders the rook as well. This costs Black the game. **26.Ne3**

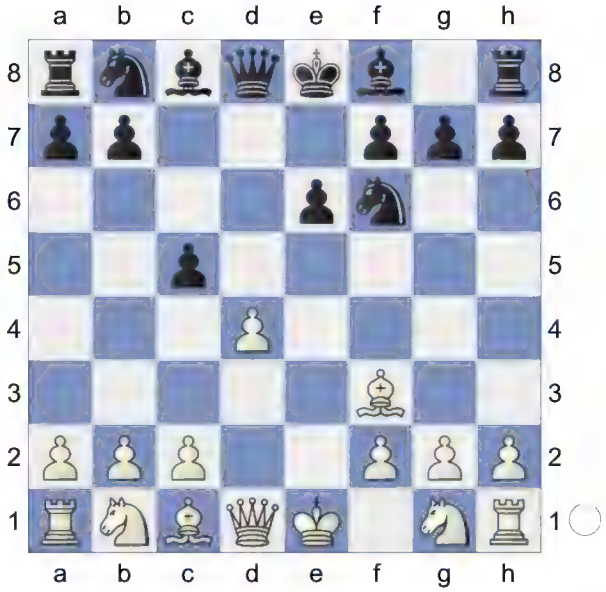
White is clearly winning.
[Stronger than 26.Bxa7 Nf4 *(26...Rxb2 27.Be3∓)* 27.Qf3 Ne2+ 28.Kh1 Qxf3 29.gxf3 Rxb2∓]
26...Rxe3 27.Qxe3 h6 28.Rc1 Kg8??
This blunders the other rook.
[28...Rxc1 29.Rxc1 Qg6+-]
29.Qb3+



And after blundering 2 rooks, Bartel resigned. And even if Bartel hadn't blundered 2 rooks, he was already much worse then white being down a pawn and having a lot of weaknesses (a7 and b4).
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.45
1-0

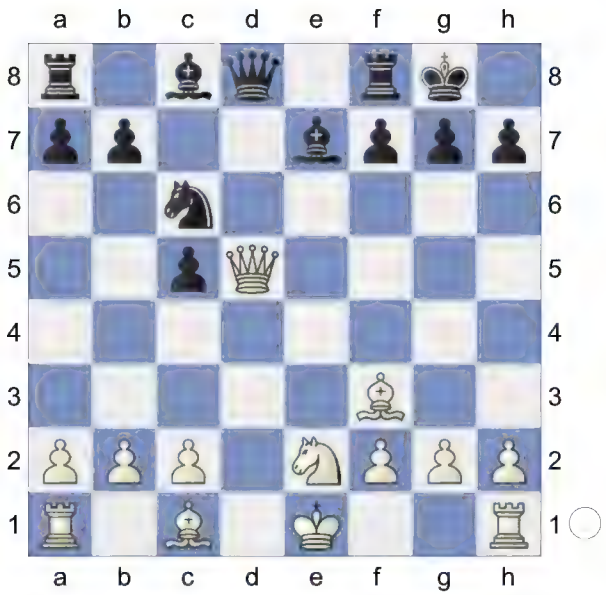
35 **C01**
□ **Onischuk,V** **2633**
■ **Bluebaum,Matthias** **2672**
Titled 27. Oct (4) 27.10.2020
[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent.
C01: French: Exchange Variation
We're gonna fast forward a few year and bunch of wins to 2024. A rematch with Bluebaum, so let's see how it went.
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5



6.Ne2 Be7 7.Nbc3 0-0 8.d5
We've seen this in the game against Matthieu Cornette. **8...exd5** The position is equal. **9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6**

(Diagram)



11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 0.11/21 And this is where we stopped following the game between Onischuk and Cornette.

[13...Bh4∓ -0.38/19 deserves consideration. 14.Ng3 Bg4]

14.Nc3?! -0.83/21

[14.0-0-0!! He had to castle long! Obviously this is very hard to find as it looks like it just loses a knight. Bxe2 But after 15.Rde1± white gets back the piece and is completely fine.]

[14.0-0-0= 0.11/21]

(Diagram)

And Onischuk immediately makes an inaccuracy. Now, this looks natural, it's understandable, but he missed Rxd2 which Bluebaum played. **14...Rxd2!∓** This though might seem illogical. Why would black give up a rook for the bishop? Well, because of how active the bishops are in the position. Having 2 bishops while white has none is very good for black as he has easier time hunting the pawns and protecting his own then white. **15.Kxd2 Bg5+**

[15...Rd8+? 1.07/20 15...Be7-g5+ -0.64 You cannot let white's king get active though as if you do, 2 bishops won't help you anymore. 16.Ke3+-]

(Diagram)

We're gonna see a bit of only moves. **16.f4!** White must play this to have an escape square for the king and not lose the piece as we saw in the variation. **16...Bxf4+ 17.Ke1!** Only square for the king.

[17.Kd1?? -1.47/21 17.Kd2-e1 -0.25 This would've been a blunder now because of Re8! and white's king cannot move. If white tries. White must now prevent ...Ba6-c8. 18.g3 Be3 19.Ke1 -2.44/24 even though now white's king can move, after *(19.h3∓ -1.49/20)* 19...g5 Strongly threatening ...Be3-c1+. 20.Nd1 Bd4+! 21.Kd2 Re2+! 22.Kc1 Bc8-+ this bishop is coming to f5 and white's king is cooked.]

17...f5N Problem for black in the position though is that it's very easy to mess it up and black does. White is already a lot better after Rd1. Black has compensation.

[17...Be3 This is a much better move, restricting white's extremely vulnerable king. 18.Rd1 Re8 19.Rd7 c4!= And then this would've been the only move for equality. Black wants to play Bc8 here. Also, this is very important move because a7 is now protected. *(19...Bd4+?? 1.02/24* 19...c5-c4 -0.33 If something like this, then after *20.Kd1!+-* where Kd2 is a bit worse for white after ...Be3+. 21. Rxa7 is unstoppable and white is just gonna be up a rook for a bishop. In this case, as he has doubled pawns and the bishop is on a6, now 2 bishops isn't good enough for black as white can glue them to the doubled pawns.*; 19...h5 20.h3 h4 21.Kd1 Bf2 22.Rxa7 Bc4 23.a4 Be3 24.Rd7 Bd4 25.Re1 Ra8 26.Re4 Be6 27.Rdxd4 cxd4 28.Rxd4 g5 29.b3 Kg7 30.Rd6 Kf6 31.Rxc6 Ke5 32.Ke2 f5 33.Rc5+ Kd4 34.b4* 1-0 (49) Onischuk,V (2609)-Bluebaum, M (2646) Titled Tue 8th Oct Late 2024 (4) *)]*

18.Rd1 Why is white better here? I know I said 2 bishops are gonna be strong and they are, but black needs to be precise not to let white's rooks play. If they are able to get into the game, they can glue bishops to black's pawns and black's gonna be in trouble. **18...Be3?!** 0.75/23 And this move now isn't as good. The reason is that now white is much faster with counterplay with Rd7!

[18...Bc4! Computer wants this for black and is saying that only Kf2 gives white the advantage. If now 19.Rd7? it's equal after the only move Re8+! forcing the king to f2 20.Kf2! *(20.Kd1?* -0.64/23 20.Ke1-f2 0.01 This is a mistake after *Bf7!* and now white has to sacrifice the rook for the bishop. *21.Rxf7 Kxf7* The only move here though for white's survival is *22.Rf1!∓* activating the rook and stopping ...g6

which would've protected the f5 pawn. Black is still a bit better due to having a bishop, but since he has damage structure on the queen side it's not so easy to prove that.) 20...Be3+!= and this is the only move for equality as black will just constantly hunt white's king.]

[18...h6= 0.07/21]

19.Rd7!± Activating the rook and getting to the 7th rank. **19...Bc4**

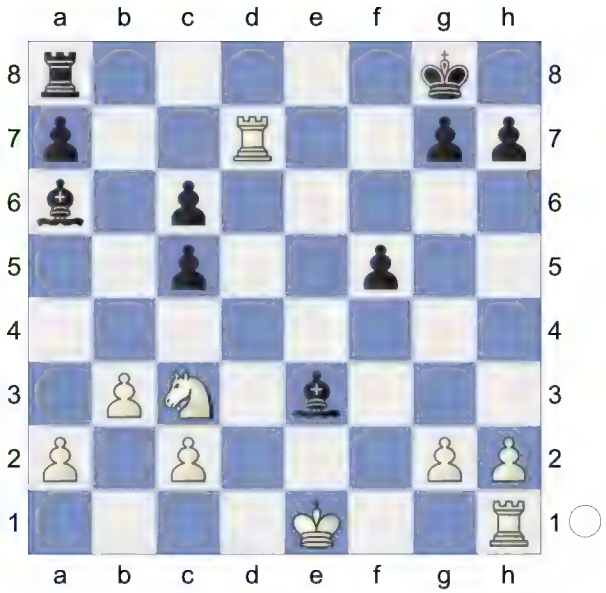
[19...c4 1.08/22 19...Ra8-e8 0.59 Now this doesn't work because there is 20.Ke2 and after Re8 21.Re1+- this bishop cannot move currently and white's gonna play Kf3 to pin it to the rook.]

20.b3 Ba6 1.28/21

[20...Bf7 This move doesn't help black as now instead of Ke2 since pinning idea isn't possible due to black's bishop guarding e8, white plays 21.Nd1 and after something like Bg5 22.Kf2 Bh4+ 23.g3! Bf6 24.Re1+- black's rook is stuck and white's rooks are very active. Also, black's DSB is looking at nothin and his LSB is looking at a wall.]

[20...Bf7± 0.67/21]

(Diagram)



21.Kd1 0.60/19

[21.Ne2± 1.28/21]

21...Bf2 1.47/20 Trying to stop white's rook from activating on e1.

[21...Kf8!± 0.60/19]

22.Ne2 0.92/21 White is more active.

[White should try 22.Kc1 1.47/20]

22...Re8 23.c4 Bc8 24.Rd6↑ No idea why Onischuk didn't take the pawn. White is in control.

[24.Rxa7± This was absolutely possible.]

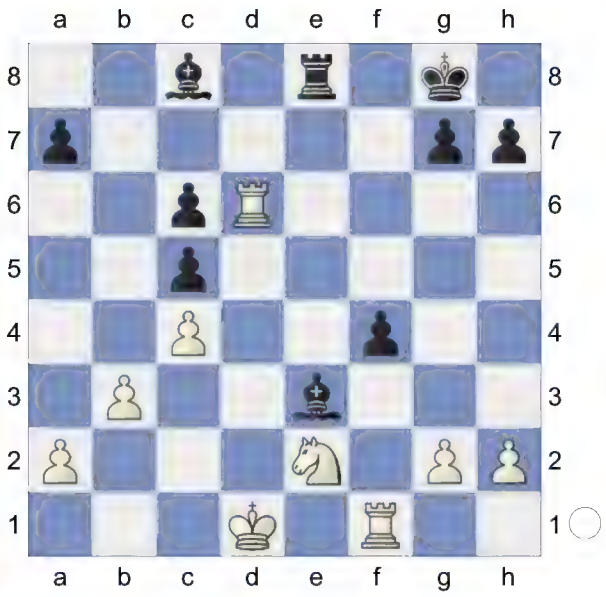
24...f4 25.Rf1! But it can activate on f1.

[25.Rxc6? Bg4 26.h3 Bxe2+ 27.Kc2 f3 28.gxf3 Bxf3-+]

25...Be3

[25...Bh4?? 3.08/22 25...Bf2-e3 0.76 If this had happened, it's losing after 26.Nxf4 Rf8 27.Rxc6 white's just getting all the pawns. If black tries to play Bg5 or he tries ...f4, he isn't winning a knight because of 28.g3!+-]

(Diagram)



Only move for survival and here white has only 1 move that keeps the advantage. **26.Nxf4?** Onischuk doesn't find the right move though since it's blitz, but now black has only 1 move for equality. h2-h3 would now be deadly.

[26.h3! Only move for the advantage! Why? Because now if Rf8 then white plays 27.Nc3± and white wants to play Ne4. Overall, black's pawns are in huge danger. In the same time, look at white's pawns, all on light squares totaly countering both bishops. DSB is looking at nothing and LSB is looking at a wall and cannot move much.]

26...Bg4+ 1.23/27 But black doesn't find the only move. Now black is completely lost after only 1 move for white. This pair of bishops is nice.

[26...Rf8! Black had to play this as after

A) 27.g3 This is also a move, but Nd3 is just more impressive, allthough black's only move here is. Threatens to win with Rf1-e1! g5! and white must play 28.Ng2! and after Rxf1+ 29.Ke2 Rf2+ 30.Kxe3 Rxg2 white has 31.Rd8+ Kf7 32.Rxc8= and it's a draw since players will just take all the pawns from each other.;

B) 27.g3!? g5 28.Ng2 Rxf1+ 29.Ke2 Rf2+ 30.Kxe3 Rxg2 31.Rd8+ *(31.Rxc6? is the wrong capture. Bg4-+)* 31...Kf7 32.Rxc8±;

C) 27.Nd3!! sacrificing the rook with a check. Black cannot take it though.

C1) 27...Rxf1+?? 1.20/22 27...Bc8-g4+ 0.24 If black rushes, black is lost after 28.Ke2! because now there is no ...Rf2 and black cannot enter the 2nd rank with a tempo. After Ra1 29.Kxe3 Rd6-d8+ is the strong threat.

C1a) 29...Bg4 2.40/21 29...Bc8-f5 1.53 30.Rd8+ Kf7 31.Ra8 threatening Ne5+ to win the bishopm so it has to go to f5 anyways. aiming for Nd3-e5+. Bh5 3.78/23 and if this, after *(31...Ke7* 2.38/21 was called for. *32.Rxa7+ Kd6 33.Rxg7 Bf5)* 32.Rxa7++- Kf6 33.Nxc5+- white is up 2 pawns and protects the pawn on a2.;

C1b) 29...Bf5 30.Rxc6 Rxa2 31.Rxc5 white hits the bishop again g6 32.Nf4 and with this white protects the g2 pawn, there are no checks for black and after Ra3 33.Rb5 Bc2 34.Rb8+ Kf7 35.Rb7+ Ke8 36.Kd4! Hoping for b3-b4. Bxb3 37.c5+- this pawn is just going up and king covers c3 so the rook cannot stand

behind the pawn and also protects the pawn. Ba4 isn't possible because then a7 falls. White is completely winning here because this pawn is so strong and black has too many weaknesses.;

C2) 27...Bg4+! Only move for a draw for black. 28.Ke1 Re8! threatening Bf4! Now only move for white 29.Rxc6! saving the rook. And after Bd4+! 30.Kd2 which is the only square for the king to go to Re2+! only move, entering the 2nd rank 31.Kc1! Rxg2! 32.Nxc5 Rxa2= it's equal since all the pawns will now fall and bishops now prove themselves as strong.]

[26...Rf8= 0.27/27 remains equal. 27.g3 g5]

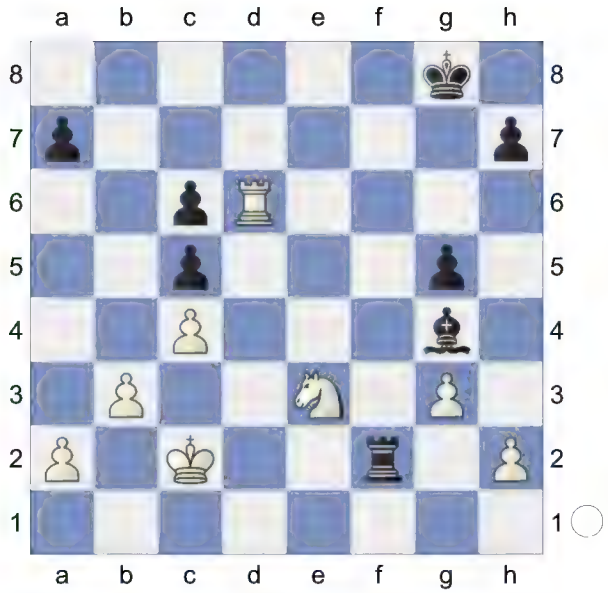
27.Kc2! And now black doesn't have anything that saves the game for him.

[27.Ne2?? -5.16/24 27.Kd1-c2 1.11 This blunders a tactic. Bxe2+ 28.Kxe2 Bf4+-+]

27...Bf5+ 3.27/23 Black cannot hold the game after this.

[27...Rf8 This looks like it works, but after 28.g3! g5 29.Ng2! sacrificing the rook, but Rxf1 doesn't come with a check. 30.Nxe3 Rf2+

(Diagram)



31.Kc3! Bh5 2.11/21 *(31...Bf3±* 1.32/23 *)* 32.Rxc6+- And white is winning since he is gonna get all the pawns on the queen side and will have 2 on nothing or 3 on nothing because black's bishop cannot protect them as they're on the wrong colour.]

[27...Rf8± 1.26/23 was worth a try.]

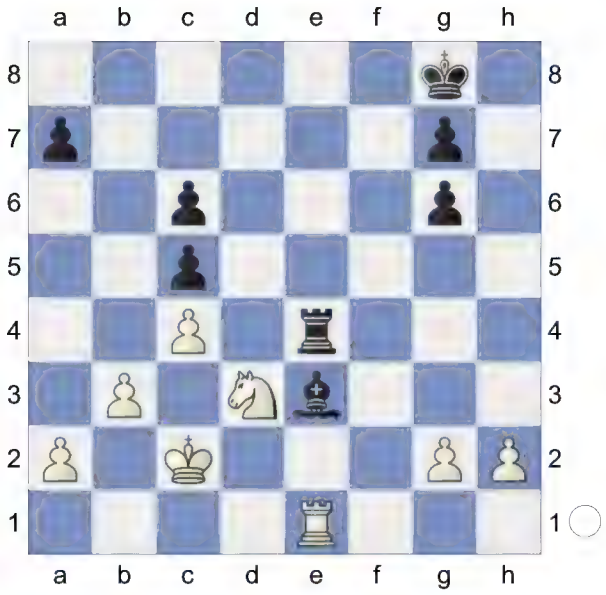
28.Nd3 Bg6 29.Re1 Re4? 5.81/23

[29...Kf8 2.16/20 is a better chance. 30.Rd7 *(30.Rxc6 Be4+-)* 30...a6]

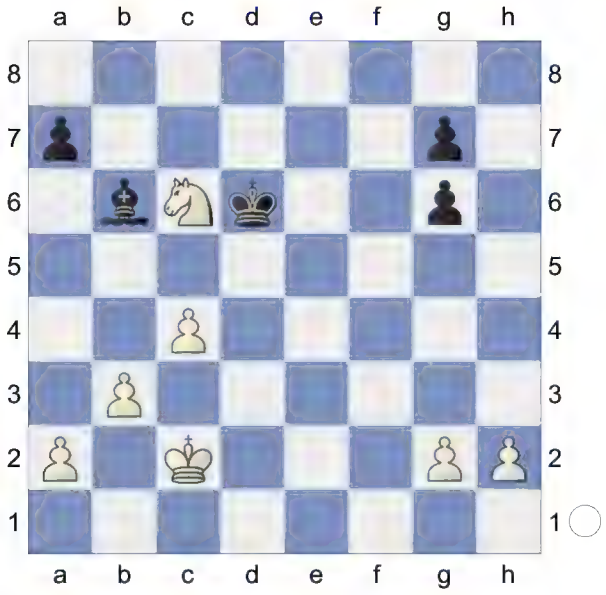
30.Rxg6 This is just Onischuk saying "here is your rook, I don't need that advantage anymore" as he knows that black's position is about to collapse.

30...hxg6

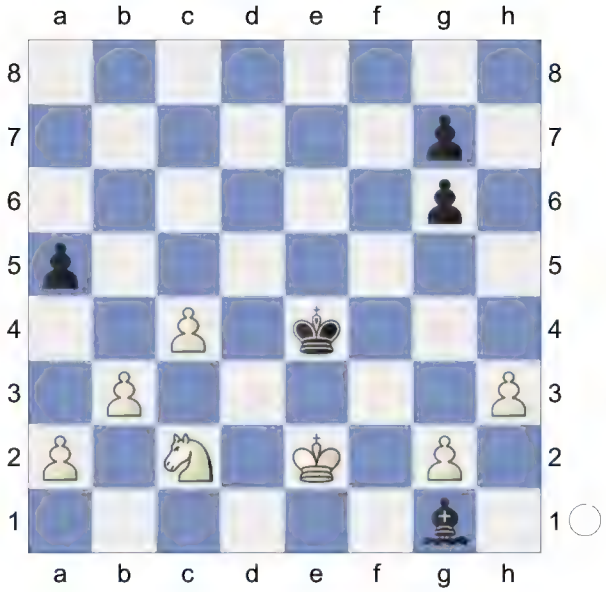
(Diagram)



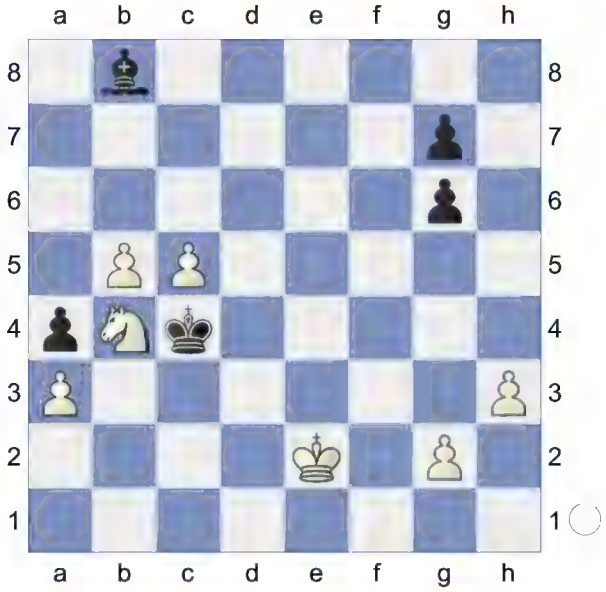
31.Nxc5+- Endgame. Pin. KRB-KRN **31...Re7 32.Nd3 Kf7 33.Nb4 Bb6 34.Rxe7+ Kxe7 35.Nxc6+** KB-KN **35...Kd6?** 4.51/24
[35...Kd7 2.33/22]



36.Nb4 Bg1 37.h3 All the pawns are on light squares, black's bishop doesn't have a single target. **37...Ke5 38.Kd3 Kf4 39.Ke2 Ke4** 5.62/23
[⌓39...a5 3.88/22 40.Nc6 Bb6]
40.Nc2 a5 4.70/25
[⌓40...Bh2 3.12/22 41.b4 Bc7]

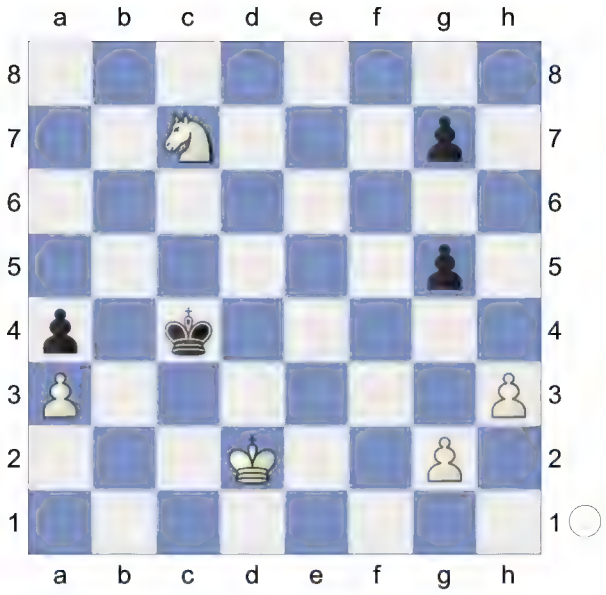


41.a3 Ba7 42.b4 a4 43.c5 Bb8 44.b5 Kd5 45.Nb4+ Kc4

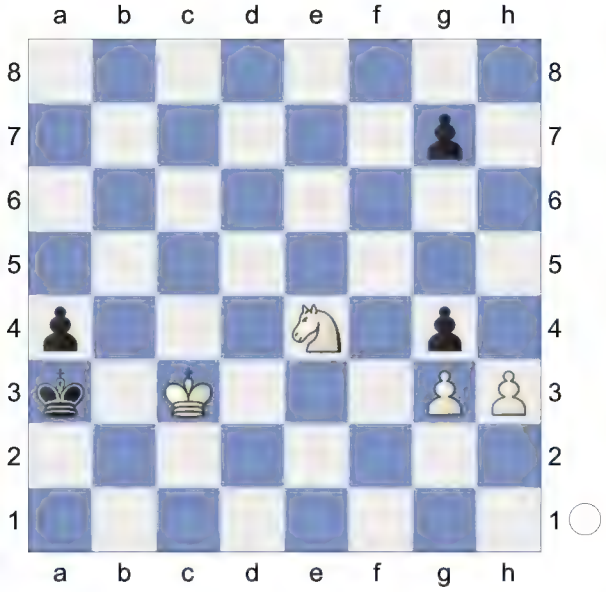


46.Na6 Bg3 47.c6 Kxb5 48.c7 Bxc7 Black has to sacrifice the bishop for the pawn so that it doesn't promote. **49.Nxc7+** KN-K3P **49...Kc4 50.Kd2 g5**

(Diagram)

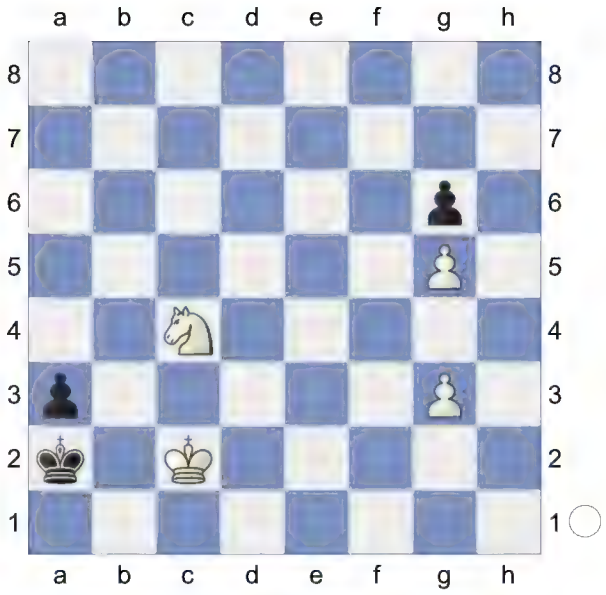


51.g3 Kb3 52.Nb5 Kc4 53.Nc3 Kb3 54.Ne4 Kxa3 55.Kc3 g4



56.hxg4 Intending g4-g5 and mate. KN-KPP **56...Ka2 57.g5** g5-g6 would kill now. **57...a3 58.Kc2 Ka1 59.Nd2 Ka2 60.Nc4 g6**

(Diagram)



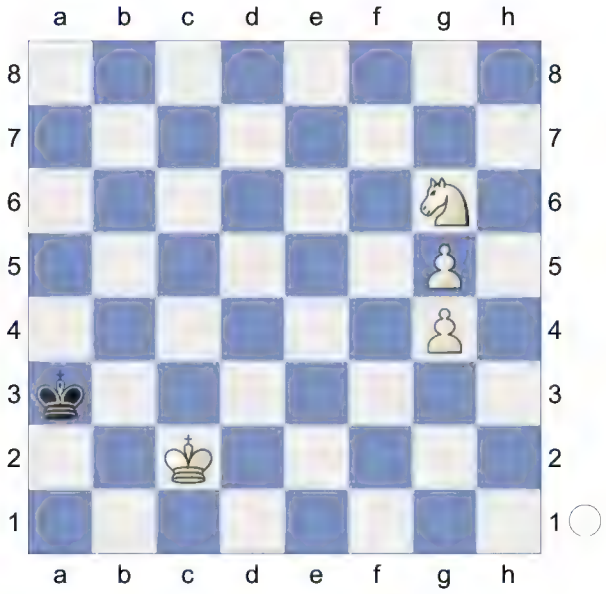
61.g4 8.15/5

[⌓61.Na5 #5/12 Ka1 62.Nb3+ Ka2 63.Nc1+ Ka1 64.g4 a2 65.Nb3#]

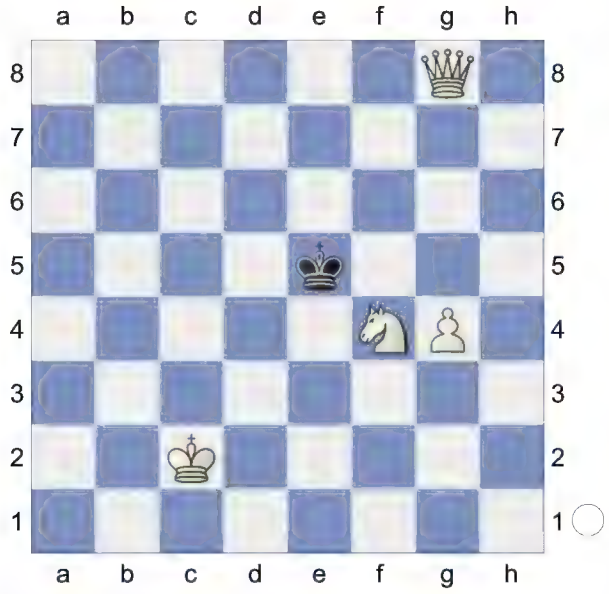
61...Ka1 62.Nxa3 8.15/5 KN-KP

[⌓62.Na5 #6/19 Ka2 63.Nb7 *(63.Nc4 Ka1 64.Nd6 Ka2 65.Nb7 Ka1 66.Nc5 Ka2 67.Nd3 Ka1 68.Nc1 a2 69.Nb3#)* 63...Ka1 64.Nc5 Ka2 65.Nd3 Ka1 66.Nc1 a2 67.Nb3#]

62...Ka2 63.Nc4 Threatening mate with Nc4-e5. **63...Ka1 64.Ne5 Ka2 65.Nxg6** White mates. **65...Ka3**



66.Nf4 Kb4 67.g6 Kc4 68.g7 Kd4 69.g8Q Ke5



And here Bluebaum resigned for obvious reasons. A really strong game with a nice, brilliant idea by Bluebaum that sadly didn't shine as this was a blitz game. In a classical game, that idea probably would've shined and we would've saw a draw in the end.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.62
1-0

36 **C01**
□ **Zubov,Alexander** **2909**
■ **Jitanu76** **2582**
Blitz 30.07.2018
[Kitty Kat]

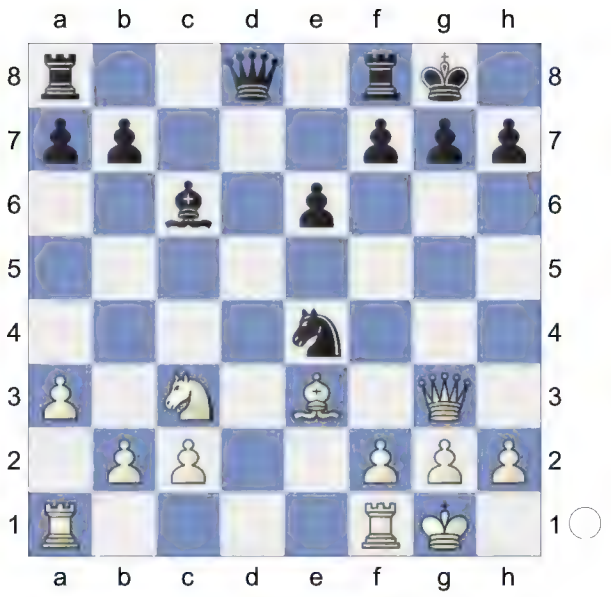
Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
We're gonna skip a few boring wins against extremely weak players again. This game is another fun one though. Now, yes, George is a FM, but this one is a strong one. 2400 is a very good rating for an FM player, this guy is also young, at this point (2021) he's 19 so he is a young but solid player. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5 9.Nc3 Bb4 10.Ndb5 0-0 0.71/20
[10...Qa5= 0.07/19 11.0-0 Be7 *(11...0-0 12.a3 Bxc3 13.Nxc3 Rd8 14.Qe2 Nxf3+ 15.Qxf3 Bd7 16.Qxb7 Rab8 17.Qxa7 Qxa7 18.Bxa7 Rxb2 19.Rfc1 Rc8 20.Bd4 Rc4 21.Bxf6 gxf6 22.Nd1 Rbxc2 23.Rxc2 Rxc2 24.a4 f5 25.g3 Bc6 26.a5* 1-0 (61) Kumargaliev,M (2648)-5. ♘f3 ♕b6 6. ♗e2 cd4 (2559) 68/296 Las Palmas 1996 (3))]
[10...Bd7 11.a3 Bxc3+ 12.Nxc3 Nxf3+ 13.Qxf3 Bc6 14.Qg3 0-0 15.Rd1 Qa5 16.0-0 Rfd8 17.Bd4 Qf5 18.Rd3 Rd7 19.Rfd1 Rad8 20.Bxf6 Qxf6 21.Rxd7 Bxd7 22.Qc7 Qe7 23.Qxb7 a5 24.h3 Qe8 25.Qc7 1-0 (26) Onischuk,V (2620)-Stoleriu,G (2419) Titled 21st Dec 2021 (3)]

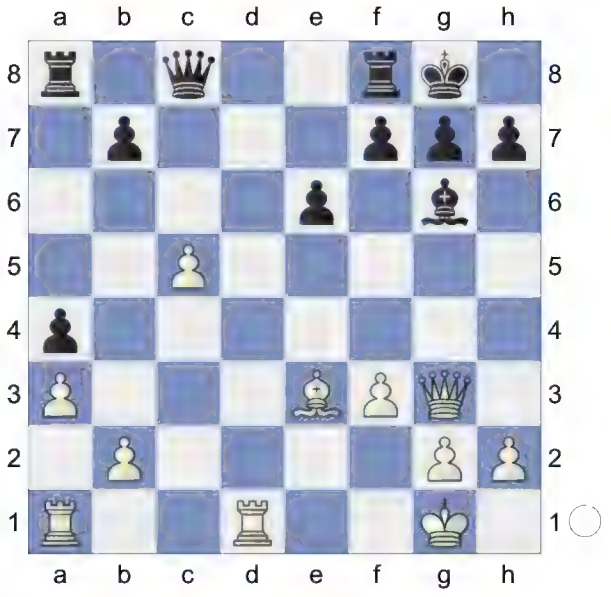
(Diagram)

11.0-0N -0.29/20
[11.Qxd8!± 0.71/20 Nxf3+ *(11...Rxd8 12.Nc7± Rb8 13.Bxa7 Nxf3+ 14.gxf3 Bd7 15.Bxb8 Rxb8 16.a4* 40) 1.e4 e6 French: 3...dxe4- French: 3...dxe4 with 6...Nc6*)* 12.gxf3 Rxd8 13.Nc7]
11...Bd7= 12.a3
[12.Nxa7? Bxc3 *(12...Qa5 13.Ne4∓)* 13.bxc3 Qb8-+]
[12.Bxb7? Rb8 13.Ba6 Qa5-+]
12...Nxf3+ 13.Qxf3 Bc6 14.Qg3 Bxc3 15.Nxc3 Ne4 0.35/21
[15...Qa5= -0.01/18 is superior.]

(Diagram)

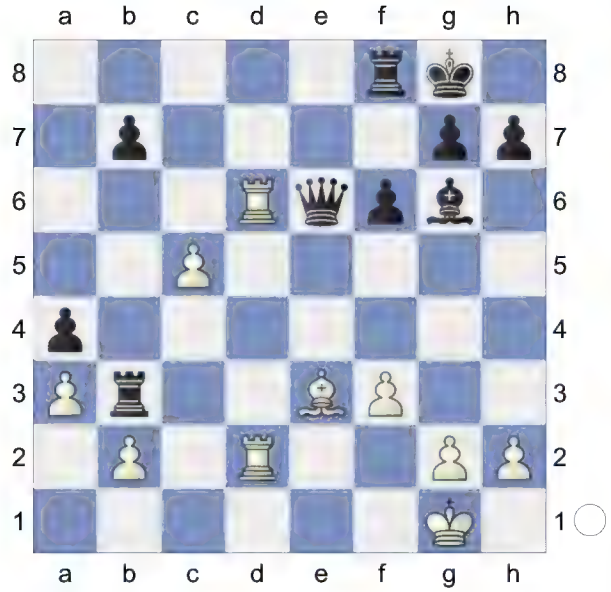


16.Nxe4→ White is up to no good.
16...Bxe4 Black is weak on the dark squares **17.c4 a5** 0.65/19
[17...Bc2= 0.24/18 deserves consideration.]
18.Rfd1 Qc8 19.f3 Bg6 20.c5 a4



21.Rd6 Ra5 22.Rad1 White has more active pieces. **22...Rb5 23.R1d2 Rb3 24.Qe5** 0.01/23
[24.Bf2!± 1.26/21 And now Qg3-h4 would win. f6 25.Qg4]
24...f6!= 25.Qxe6+ -2.14/21
[25.Qf4= 0.01/21]

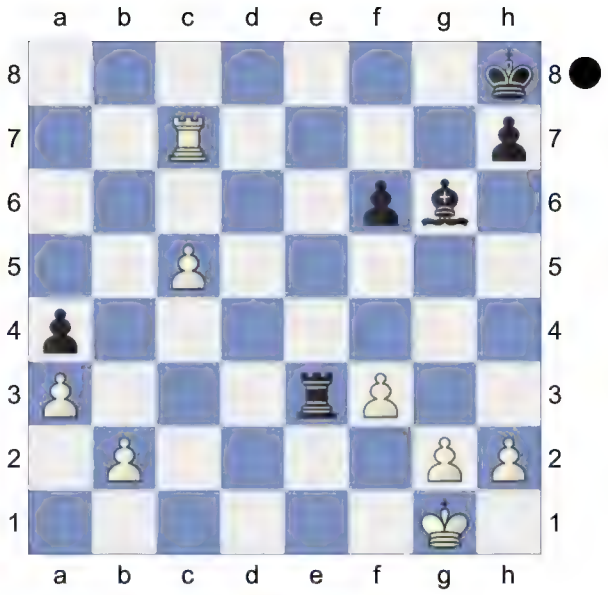
25...Qxe6-+



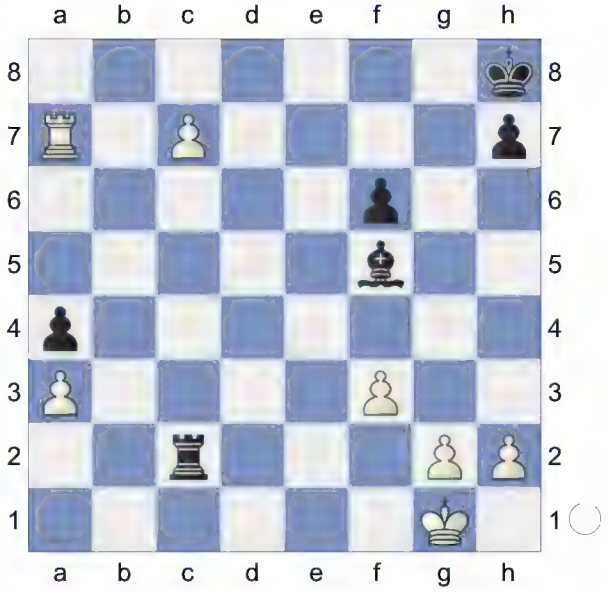
26.Rxe6 Kf7! Deflection **27.Rb6**
[27.Rdd6? Bf5-+ *(27...Rxb2 28.Bf4=; 27...Rxb2 28.Bf4=)*]
27...Rxe3 28.Rxb7+ Kg8 29.Rdd7 Rc8 30.Rxg7+ Kh8

31.Rgc7 Rxc7 32.Rxc7 Endgame.

(Diagram)



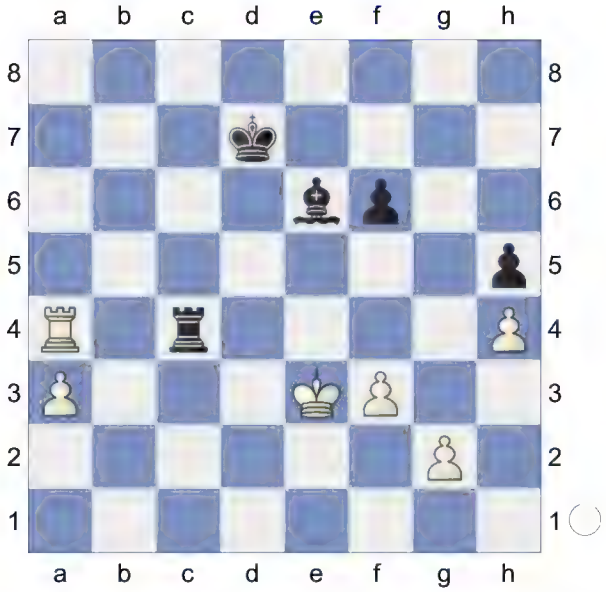
KRB-KR **32...Rb3** -0.54/25
[Black should play 32...Re1+!∓ -1.48/21 33.Kf2 Rb1]
33.c6∓ Rc7-d7 would now be deadly.
33...Rxb2 0.01/26
[33...Rb6∓ -0.62/24 34.h4 Ra6 *(34...Rxb2 35.h5±)*]
34.Ra7 -1.17/25
[34.Rd7!= 0.01/26 Rc2 35.c7]
34...Rc2∓ 35.c7 aiming for Ra7-a8+.
35...Bf5



36.h4 -1.85/22
[36.Rxa4∓ -1.00/23 Rxc7 37.Rf4]

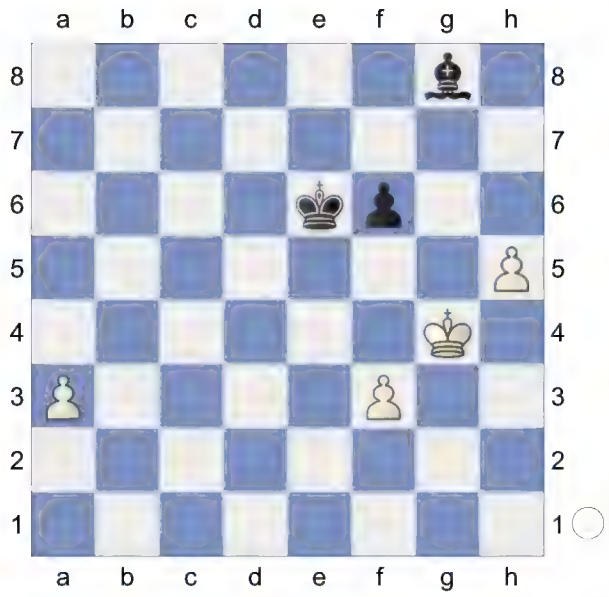
36...h5 -1.33/24
[36...Bc8-+ -1.85/22 37.Rxa4 Rxc7]
37.Kh2 -1.98/22
[37.Rxa4∓ -1.33/24 might work better. Rxc7 38.g4]
37...Bd7-+ 38.Kg3 Kg8 39.Kf4 Kf8
White must now prevent ...Kf8-e7!
[39...Rxg2 40.Ra8+ Kf7 41.c8R Bxc8 42.Rxc8=]
[39...Rc4+ 40.Ke3]
40.Ke4 -2.31/23
[40.g4∓ -1.37/23 was necessary.]
40...Ke7
[40...Rxg2 41.Ra8+ Kf7 42.c8R Bxc8 43.Rxc8=]

41.Kd5 Be6+
[41...Rxg2 42.c8Q *(42.c8R Rd2+ 43.Ke4 Rd1+-)* 42...Rd2+ 43.Ke4 Rd6 44.Qc5 Ke6 45.f4 *(45.Qxh5 Bc6+ 46.Kf4 Rd4+ 47.Kg3 Rd7+-)* 45...Rd1 46.Ra6+ *(46.Qxh5 Bc6+ 47.Ke3 Re1+ 48.Kd2 Rb1 49.Ra6 Rb2+ 50.Kc1 Rg2 51.Rxc6+ Ke7)* 46...Kf7 47.Qxh5+ Kg7 48.Qxd1]
42.Kd4 Kd6
[42...Rxg2 43.c8Q+ *(43.c8R+ Bd7+-; 43.c8R+ Bd7+-)*]
[42...Rc4+ 43.Kd3 Kd6 *(43...Rxh4 44.c8Q+ Kd6 45.Qc7+ Kd5 46.Ra5#; 43...Kd7 44.c8N+ Kxc8 45.Ra6-+)* 44.g4]
43.Ra6+ Kd7
[Weaker is 43...Kxc7 44.Rxe6 Rxg2 45.Ra6= *(45.Rxf6 Ra2=)*]
44.Rxa4 Rxc7 45.Ke3 Rc4 -0.70/22
[45...Ke7-+ -1.98/19 46.Ra5 Rc2]

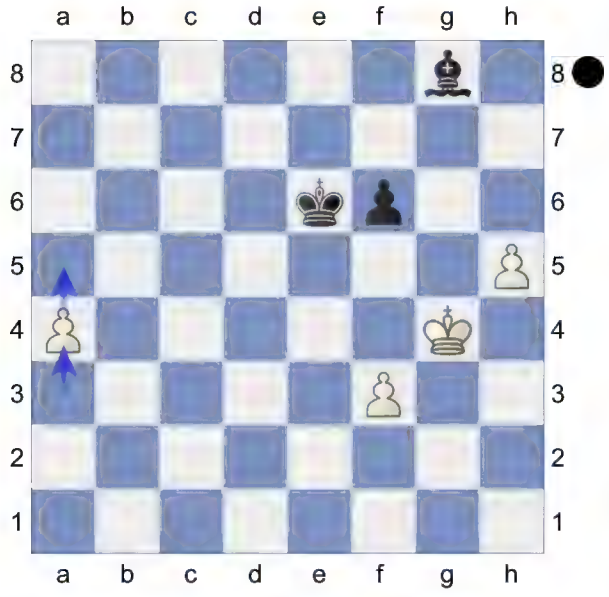


46.Rxc4∓ Bxc4 KB-KP **47.g4** -1.29/26
[47.a4!∓ -0.51/26]
47...Bf7 -0.47/26
[47...Bb5∓ -1.29/26 48.Kd4 *(48.gxh5 Ke7∓)* 48...Bc6 49.gxh5 Ke6]
48.Kf4 hxg4 0.00/27
[48...Bb3∓ -0.79/25]
49.Kxg4?∓ -1.74/26 KB-K3P
[49.fxg4= 0.00/27 Kd6 50.a4]
49...Ke6 Strongly threatening ...Bf7-e8.
50.h5? -4.61/27
[50.a4 -1.74/25 is the only way for White.]
50...Bg8? -1.21/31
[50...Be8-+ -4.61/27 is more deadly. 51.Kh4 Kf5]

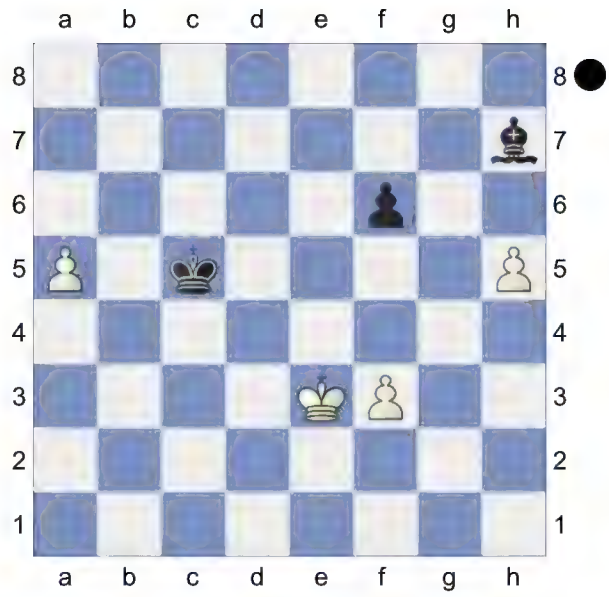
(Diagram)



51.a4



Bh7 -0.01/30
[51...Ke7!∓ -1.22/29 next ...Bg8-e6+ is good for Black. 52.a5 Be6+ 53.Kf4 Bc8]
52.Kf4 -1.44/26
[52.a5= -0.01/30 Bf5+ 53.Kh4]
52...Kd6 0.00/31
[Better is 52...Bd3∓ -1.44/26 Threatens to win with ...Ke6-f7. 53.Ke3 Ba6]
53.Ke3 Kc5 54.a5
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.48/ Black=0.38. Loss on time!?
1-0

37 **C01**
□ **Onischuk,V** **2633**
■ **Postny,Evgeny** **2605**
Titled Tuesday 17. Nov (10) 17.11.2020
[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

Now, after that messy game let's look at this one which brings to us a new idea in the opening. New for you that are looking at the study of course, not for the world.
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Bd6

(Diagram)

Black, instead of the passive Be7 or the main line with c5 develops like this. What black is gonna do is develope in a weird style where he isn't gonna play c5 at all. That doesn't really sound French Defense like to me, but let's see how it went. The drawback is that this bishop can be targeted by the knight now.

6.Nc3

[6.Ne2 Nbd7 *(6...0-0 7.Nbc3 c5 8.0-0 cxd4 9.Nxd4 a6 10.Be3 Qc7 11.g3 Rd8 12.Qe2 e5 13.Nb3 Be6 14.Rfd1 Nc6 15.Bg5 Be7 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.Nd5 Bxd5 18.Bxd5 Nd4 19.Nxd4 exd4 20.Bb3 a5 21.a4* ½-½ (37) Yildiz Kadioglu,B (2314)-Socko,M (2422) Olympiad Women-45 2024 (5.6)*)* 7.Nbc3 c6 8.0-0 0-0 9.g3 e5 10.d5 cxd5 11.Nxd5 Nxd5 12.Bxd5 Nf6 13.Bg2 h6 14.Nc3 a6 15.Qe2 Qc7 16.Ne4 Nxe4 17.Bxe4 Bd7 18.Rd1 Bc6 19.c3 Bxe4 20.Qxe4 Rad8 1-0 (55) Pichot,A (2638)-Urbina Perez,J (2274) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st Feb Late blitz 2023 (2)]

6...0-0

[6...a6?! Playing this to stop Nb5 isn't really that good as it wastes time. 7.Nge2 0-0 8.0-0 Nbd7 9.Ng3± Now white's gonna go to e4 and target the bishop anyways, so a6 overall was just a waste of time because of this.]

7.Nb5 As I've said, this move has a drawback. **7...Bb4+N** You want to force c3 because then the knight cannot go back to c3 and will have to go to a3-c2-e3 in order to get to a good square.

[7...Be7± 0.13/19 7...e6-e5 -0.31 Evgeny could've just retreated, but this isn't as good as Bb4+ as c3 wasn't forced meaning that white's knight can go back to c3.]

[7...e5 8.Nxd6 Qxd6 9.dxe5 Qxe5+ 10.Ne2 Nc6 11.0-0 Rd8 12.Qe1 Bg4 12) The 3.Bd3 French-6.Nc3 - N1]

8.c3 The position is equal.

[8.Bd2 If this was played, after a5 9.a3 Be7 c3 wasn't forced, but a3 was. Now after 10.Ne2 c6 11.Nbc3 a4= that pawn on a3 is fixed and b4 pawn cannot move, while in the same time black can play b5 if he wants at some point and then have some good space advantage on the queen side.]

8...Be7 Engine doesn't like this move and thinks that a6 was better.

[8...a6 Reason why this is better is that after 9.Nxc7 *(9.Na3?* -0.49/20 9.Nb5xc7 0.12 This would've been stupid as after *Bxa3! 10.bxa3∓* c3 is weak, a3 is weak and the a pawns are doubled pawns. Black's gonna be able to exploit that with something like Qd6.*)* 9...Qxc7 10.cxb4 Nc6 white has an isoalted d pawn and doubled pawns on the b file. Yes, white is currently up a pawn, but he won't be for long as black's gonna be able to capture one of those pawns

over time. If

A) 11.a3? This isn't good as there is e5! and you cannot take it. Taking on c6 let's queen take back and target the g2 pawn. 12.dxe5? -1.16/21 *(12.Bxc6=* -0.28/20 *Qxc6 13.Nf3)* 12...Nxe5∓;

B) 11.Bxc6 after 11...Qxc6 12.Nf3 Qb5 13.a3 Nd5∓ 0.01/19 white can keep the pawn advantage for now, but after something like ... a5 black will activate his rook on the semi-opened a-file and will have a bit of an advantage over white. *(13...b6∓* -0.35/18 deserves consideration. *)*]

9.a4?! -0.26/21 Onischuk does make a bit of an inaccuracy. Now black is a bit better since he can kick out the knight with c6.

[9.Bf4 White should've just developed apparently since his knight is gonna get kicked out anyways, so you might not waste time.]

[9.Bf4 0.13/20 should be considered. Na6 10.Ne2]

9...c6=

[9...Nc6 Engine even gives this as an option, where after 10.Bf4 a6 11.Nxc7 Ra7! 12.d5 e5 13.dxc6 exf4 14.Nd5 And now Qd1-d4 would win. bxc6∓ Black is apparently better despite having a damaged pawn structure. I don't trust the engine on this one since it doesn't feel practical and white can get rid of black's knight targeting the c6 pawn at the same time, but just wanted to show that engine is a complete scumbag and likes to tell us humans that we're all stupid.]

10.Na3 Nbd7?!

[10...c5 11.dxc5 Bxc5 12.Qxd8 Rxd8=]

c5 should've really been played, but it's not gonna happen throught the whole game. I don't know why as it feels extremely natural to play that move. It's the only way for black to fight against this center except for e5 which happens later. Reason why it's better then e5 is because if white takes it, black activates his bishop. **11.Nc4 Qc7?!** Again, c5.

[11...c5 12.Ne2 cxd4 13.cxd4 Nd5= This is what the engine wants and it's reasonable, as now white has an isolated pawn and if white wants black to have one, he has to give up the bishop pair.]

12.Ne2 e5! Whole set-up was for e5, so it happened. Dodges Bc1-f4

[12...c5? 0.58/20 12...Nf6-d5 0.07 c5 now would make 0 sense as after 13.Bf4 Qd8 14.0-0 white just got an extra move for no reason. Nd5 15.Bg3± Also, these bishops are just monsters.]

13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Nxe5 Qxe5 15.Bf4 Qc5

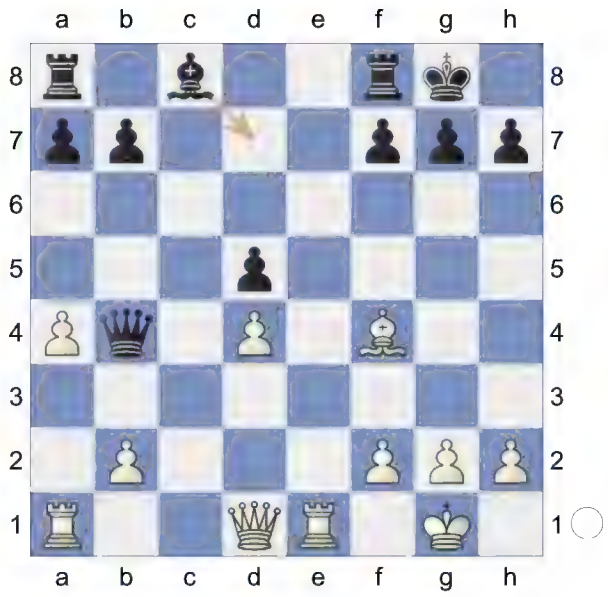
(Diagram)

16.0-0 Nd5 17.Bxd5 cxd5 18.Nd4 Bf6 19.Re1 Problem though is that Onischuk isn't playing the best moves, so even though his moves are fine and aren't really bad, he doesn't keep the advantage. **19...Bxd4!** Very important to get rid of the knight and make the isolated pawn.

[19...Bd7 Black cannot be as slow as this is, because now after 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Rxe5± black gets under some pressure and white is a bit better since he doesn't have the isolated pawn and black does.]

20.cxd4 Now the structure is the same except that white's pawn is on a4 and not on a2. **20...Qb4**

(Diagram)



21.Re3 Bf5 22.Rb3 Qe7 Very important to retreat this way. It protects the b7 pawn and the queen is also safe. Also, did you notice we're in the opposite colours bishops again and Onischuk is gonna win anyways? Interesting that Onischuk does this sometimes, even though theory says that this should always be a draw. **23.Qh5 Qe4** Black is weak on the dark squares **24.Be3** Understandable move, but not the right move.

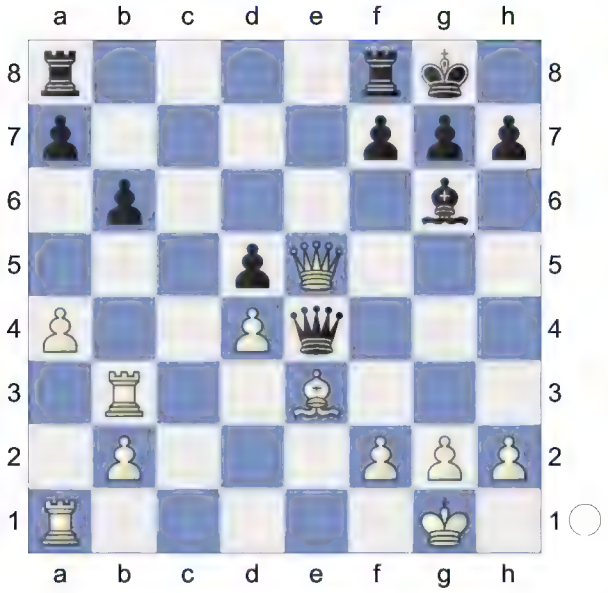
[24.Bg3 This was a bit better, as black still cannot take the d pawn since his bishop is hanging then. Bg6 25.Qe5 Qxe5 26.Bxe5 f6 27.Bc7 b6 28.a5± It's pretty equal, but white has some chances since he'll be able to hunt black's pawns much easier then black hunting white's pawns.]

[24.Qf3 simplifies Qxf3 25.Rxf3 Bc2 26.a5]

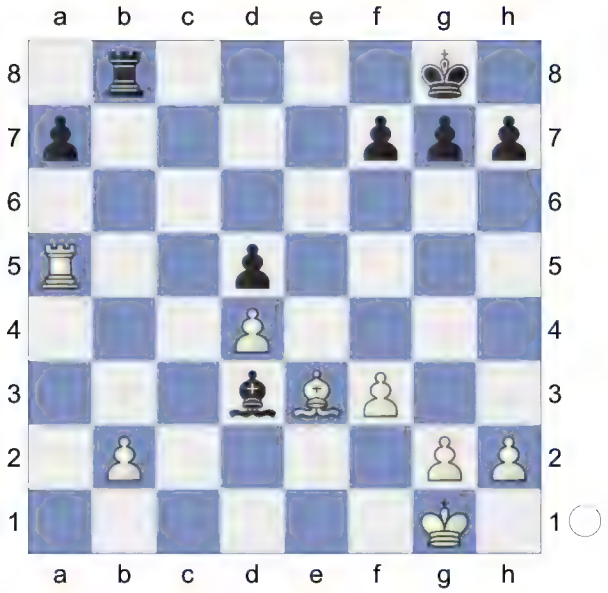
24...Bg6?! 0.55/20 Black makes an inaccuracy right back though, not playing b6.

[24...b6 No reason to move the bishop, this is better as now after 25.a5 bxa5= white cannot take

immediately and has to first go Rac8 because white's backrank problems.]
[24...b6= 0.00/21]
25.Qe5± b6

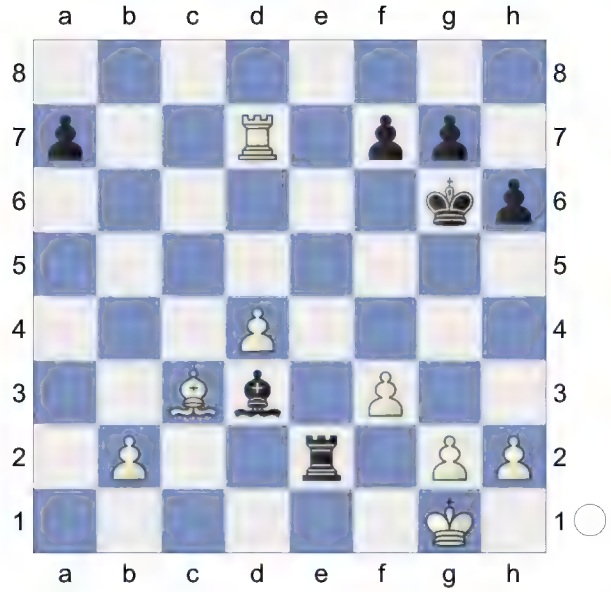


26.Qxe4 Bxe4 27.a5 Now white'll be able to capture immediately since queens are off the board and will actually have a bit of an advantage.
27...bxa5 28.Rxa5 Rab8 29.Rxb8 Rxb8± Endgame. KRB-KRB **30.f3**
[30.Rxa7 f6±]
30...Bd3

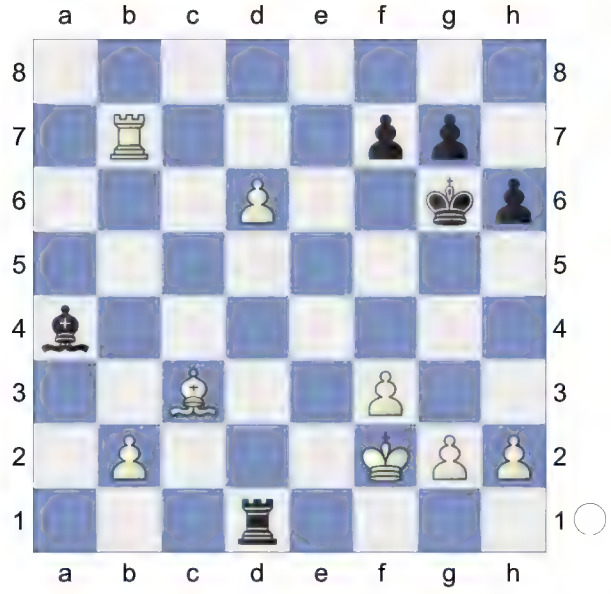


31.Bd2?! 0.27/23 This move doesn't make any sense since you're just gonna get hit with Rxb2.
[31.Rxd5± Don't know why white didn't just take the pawn. Black cannot take on b2 as he now has backrank problems.]
[Better is 31.Rxd5± 0.84/23 f6 32.Bc1]
31...h6?! This also makes no sense, I mean, b2 was a free pawn.
[31...Rxb2 32.Rxd5 h6 33.Bc3 Rb7= I don't know why this wasn't played tbh.]
32.Bc3
[Reject 32.Rxa7 Rxb2 33.Be3 Rb1+ 34.Kf2 h5=]
32...Re8? 1.55/24 And here Evgeny made a huge mistake blundering the d5 pawn. I'm 100% sure this was a mouse slip, no way that he did this on purpose. Black is now going downhill.
[32...Bc4 Obviously he had to protect the d5 pawn. 33.Rxa7 Re8± a7 did fall, but he can get maybe to the 2nd rank and try to get some counterplay. White is a bit better though since he is up a pawn.]
[32...Bc4± 0.53/24]
33.Rxd5
[But not 33.Rxa7?! Re2±]
33...Re2?? 2.43/22 Probably tilted Evgeny tried to go for quick counterplay, but there is nothing and Rd8+ is now winning for white. Onischuk again winning opposite colours bishops is hilarious.
[33...Rc8 Black has to stay on the 8th rank with his rook to not get hit with Rd8+. 34.Rd7 a6± White's better because he is much more active, but black is defending everything and this can still be a draw.]
[33...a6± 1.54/22 34.h4 Rc8]

34.Rd8++- Kh7 35.Rd7 Kg6



36.Rxa7 Rc2 37.d5 Rc1+ 38.Kf2 Rd1 39.d6 Bb5 40.Rb7 Ba4



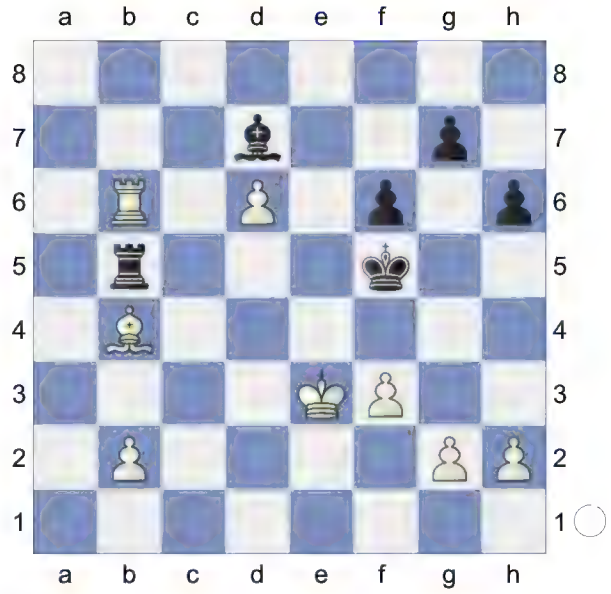
41.Rb4 Bd7 42.Rb6 Waste of time.

[42.Bd4+- White should've come between the rook and the pawn so that the rook doesn't see the pawn and the he should've went Ke2 up to kick out the rook. b2 is also always protected.]

42...f6 43.Ke2 Rd5 44.Ke3 Kf5 45.Bb4 Rb5?? 3.45/27

[45...Re5+ This move could've been played, there is of course more options, but black cannot trade the rooks here!]

[⌓45...Ke6 1.76/21 46.Rb8 Rh5]

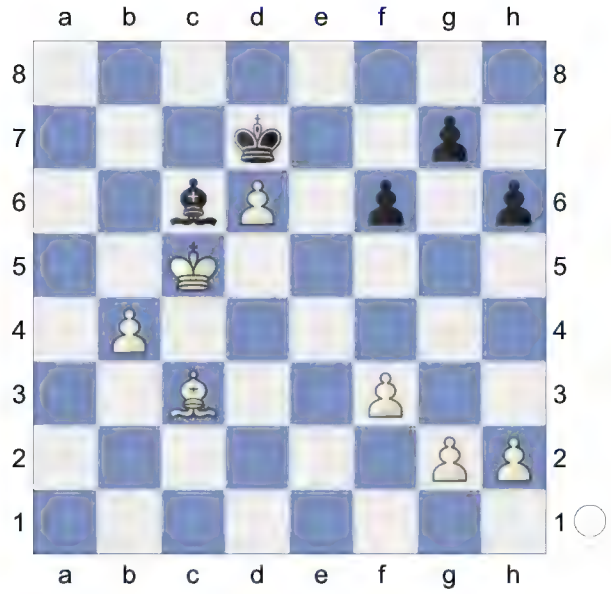


Such a wrong decision, you cannot trade rooks here as black since you're down 2 pawns and white is up 2 past pawns. Also, both promotion squares are the bishop's colour. **46.Rxb5+ Bxb5** KB-KB **47.Kd4 Ke6 48.Kc5 Ba4 49.Bc3**

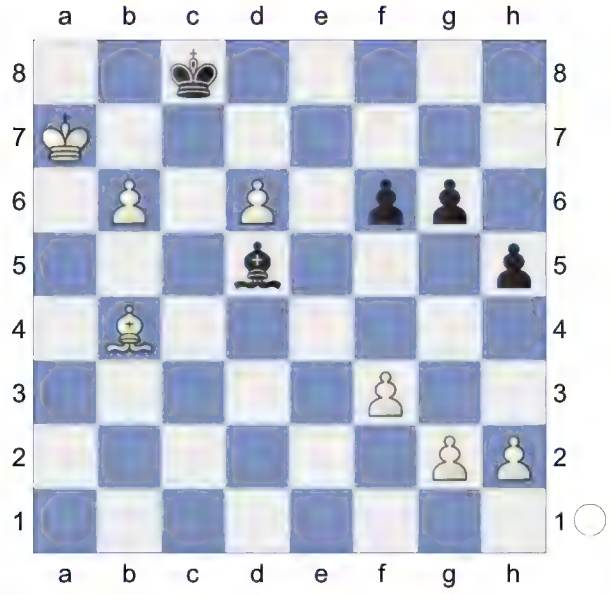
aiming for b2-b4. **49...Kd7 50.b4**

And white is just walking up and pushing his pawns, black has no counterplay at all. Strongly threatening b4-b5. **50...Bc6** 7.03/32

[50...Bc2 3.31/27 51.b5 Bf5]

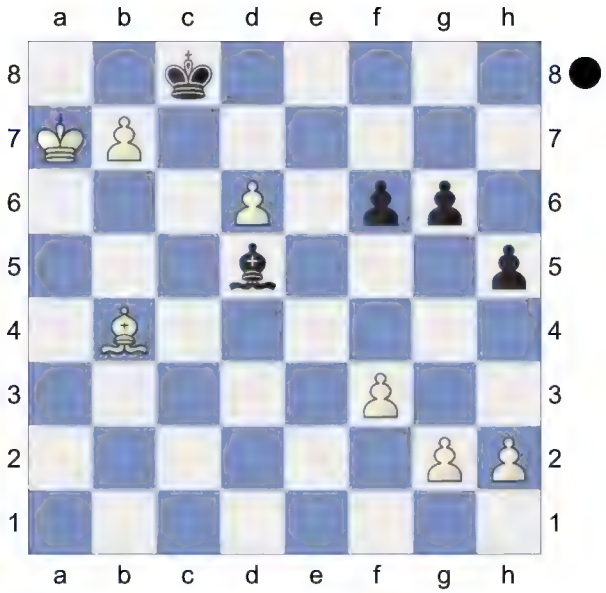


51.b5 White is clearly winning. **51...Ba8 52.Bb4 h5 53.Kb6 g6 54.Ka7 Bd5 55.b6** b6-b7 would kill now. **55...Kc8**



56.b7+!

(Diagram)

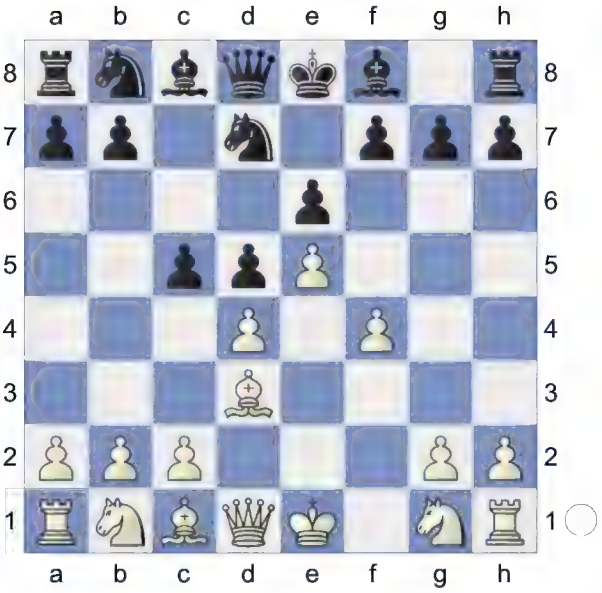


And Evgeny resigns as he has to sacrifice the bishop for the pawns (56... Bxb7 57. d7+! Kc7 58. d8=Q+ wins the bishop) and is gonna lose the game. To me personally it's hilarious that Onischuk wins opposite colours bishops endgames even though they're theoretically a draw, but he is just proving theory wrong (or better to say, his opponent's cannot keep up with him and he is able to take over the game).
Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.21 (precise)
1-0

38 **C01**
□ **Zubov,Alexander** **2862**
■ **Jimakos** **2579**
Blitz 05.11.2018
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min
C01: French: Exchange Variation
We're gonna skip Onischuk's win against a 2150 as it's not cool to watch him destroy bad FMs really and go to this game to show another line black can

play in the Schlechter French. It's another blitz game in which Onischuk chose violence. **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Bd3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5**



6.c3 Active counter play! **6...Nc6 7.Nf3 Be7**

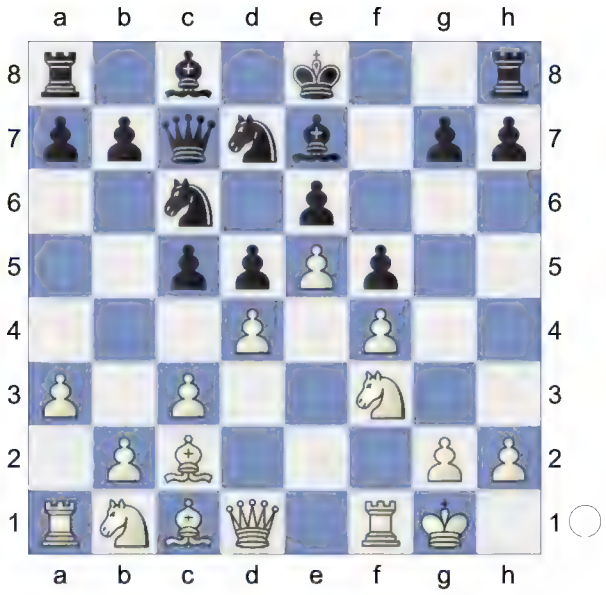
[7...Qb6 8.Be2 f6 9.a3 Be7 10.b4 cxd4 11.cxd4 0-0 12.Bb2 g5 13.exf6 Nxf6 14.Nxg5 h6 15.Nf3 Ne4 16.Nbd2 Rxf4 17.0-0 Bd7 18.Nb3 Raf8 19.Rb1 Qd8 20.Nc5 b6 21.Nxd7 Qxd7 22.Bb5 1-0 (33) Onischuk,V (2633)-Mokshanov,A (2454) Titled Tuesday 10th Nov blitz 2020 (7)]

8.0-0 White is slightly better. **8...Qb6 9.Bc2 f5N**

[9...g6 10.Kh1 a5 11.dxc5 Nxc5 12.a4 Bd7 13.Na3 1...e6 - French 3.Bd3-1...e6 - French 3.Bd3 #459]

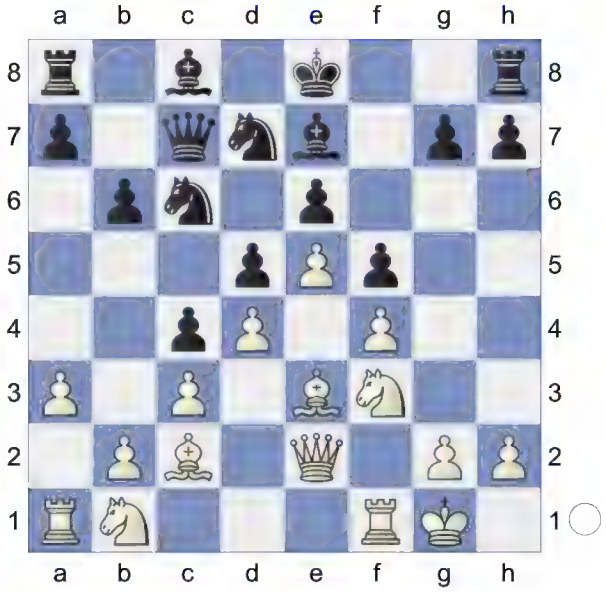
10.a3 Qc7

(Diagram)



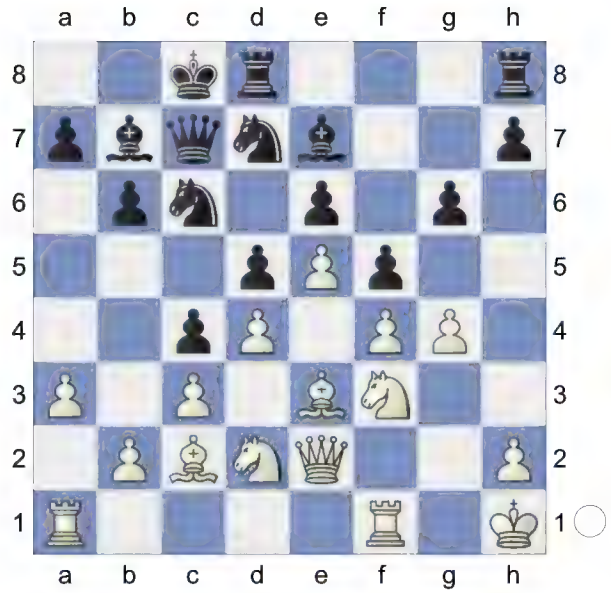
11.Be3 b6 12.Qe2 c4 0.94/16

[12...0-0± 0.43/18]

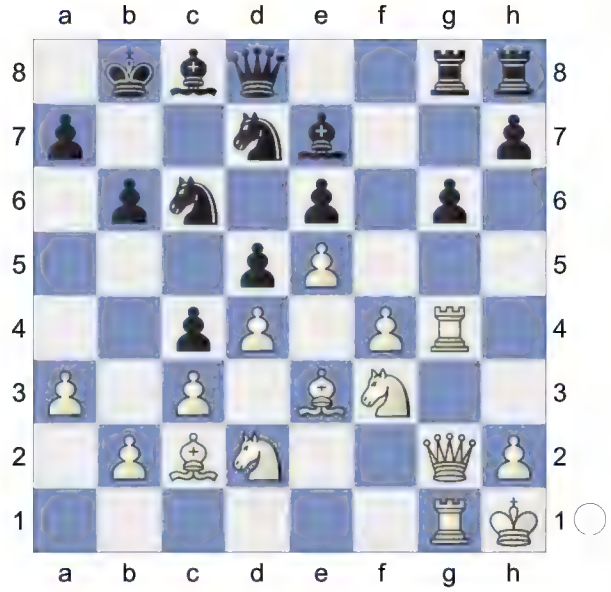


13.g4! g6 14.Nbd2 Bb7 15.Kh1 0-0-0

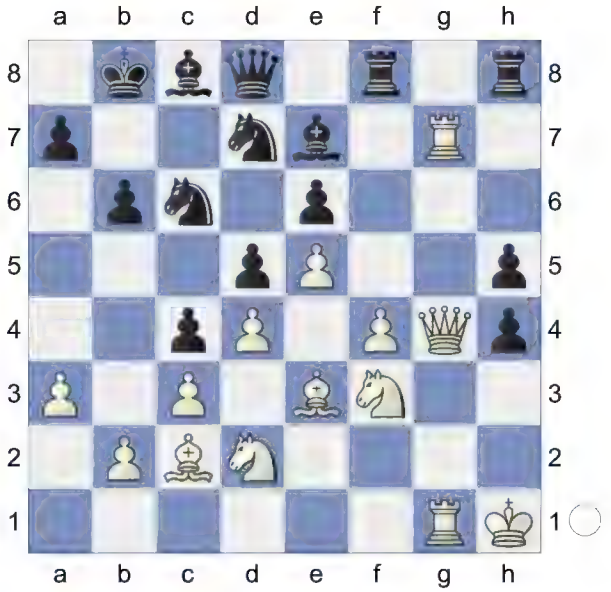
(Diagram)



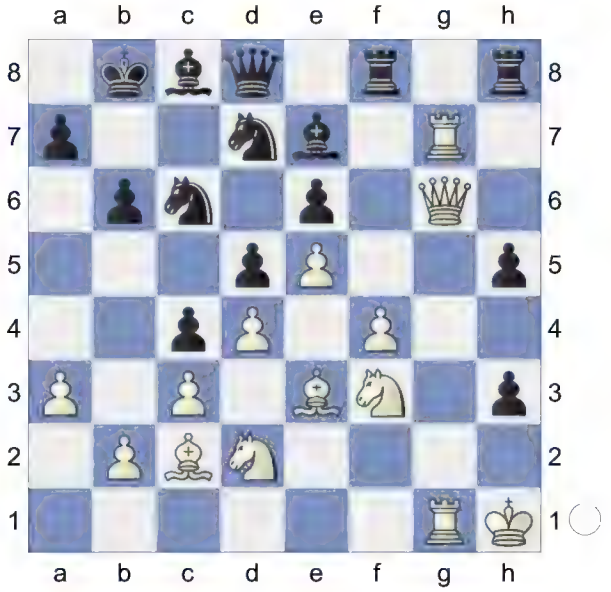
16.Rg1 Rdg8 17.Rg3 Qd8 18.Rag1 Kb8 19.Qg2 g4xf5 would now be deadly. **19...fxg4 20.Rxg4 Bc8**



21.h4
[21.Ng5 Qe8±]
21...Rf8 22.h5 gxh5 1.70/20
[22...Rf7± 1.01/18 23.Nf1 Qe8]
23.Rg7+- h4 1.92/18
[23...Re8± 1.52/19 24.Nf1 *(24.Bxh7 Bf8±; 24.Rxh7 Rxh7 25.Bxh7 b5+-)* 24...b5]
24.Qg4 h5? 3.82/20
[24...Re8 1.70/19 25.Nf1 *(25.Qxe6 Nf6±; 25.Bxh7 Bf8±)* 25...Nf8]

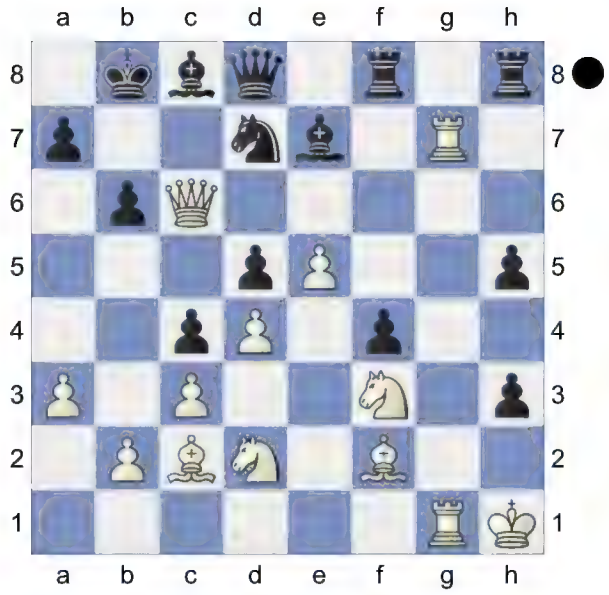


25.Qg6 h3



26.f5 exf5 4.72/19
[26...Rxf5 2.73/19 27.Bxf5 Pin Nf8]
27.Qxc6 f4 28.Bf2

(Diagram)



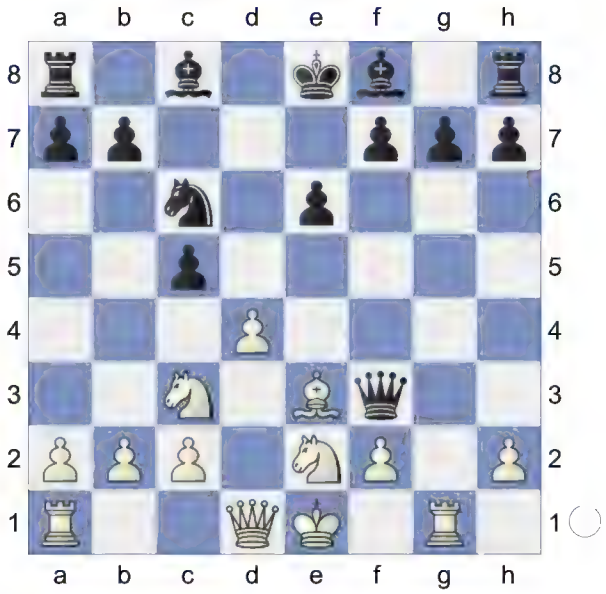
Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.39
1-0

39 **C01**
□ **Kramnik,Vladimir** **2808**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2808**
5. Norway Blitz 2017 (3.5) 05.06.2017
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

(Diagram)

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 Nd5 8.Bxd5 Qxd5 White is slightly better. **9.Nbc3 Qxg2 10.Rg1 Qf3**



11.Nb5! Black must now prevent Nb5-c7+. **11...Rb8 12.dxc5** White wants to mate with Nb5-c7+. **12...Bd7** 1.75/21
[12...f6± 0.83/21 13.Nd6+ Bxd6 14.Qxd6 g6 15.Rd1 Rf8 16.Nd4 Qd5 17.Qxd5 exd5 18.Bf4 Nxd4 19.Rxd4 Ra8 20.Rxd5 Be6 21.Rd6 Kf7 22.Kd2 g5 23.Be3 Rfd8 24.Rxd8 Rxd8+ 25.Kc3 Rd7 26.a4 h5 27.b4 a6 1-0 (39) Kovalev,V

(2641)-Tabatabaei,M (2577) Aeroflot Open A 2018 (8.1)]

13.Nc7+N 1.06/22 A dynamic duo of knights.

[13.Qd2+- 1.75/21 Rc8 14.0-0-0]

[13.Qd3 Rc8 14.0-0-0 Qd5 15.Qxd5 exd5 16.Rxd5 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-N,N]

13...Kd8± 14.Nb5 Ne5 15.Qd4

[15.Nxa7 Ra8 16.Bd4 Ng4±]

15...Qd5 1.33/20

[Better is 15...f6 0.87/22]

16.0-0-0!

[16.Nxa7? Nf3+ 17.Kf1 Nxh2+ *(17...Nxd4? 18.Rd1-+)* 18.Ke1 Nf3+ 19.Kf1 Nxd4-+]

16...Qxd4 17.Bxd4 -0.19/21

[Reject 17.Nbxd4?! Rc8=]

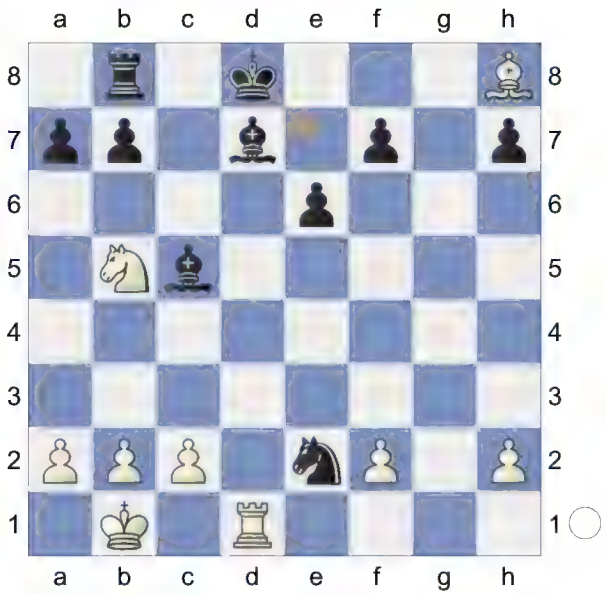
[17.Nexd4± 0.91/21 Hoping for Be3-f4. Ke8 18.Nc7+ *(18.Nxa7 Bxc5 19.Bf4 f6±)* 18...Ke7 19.Bf4]

17...Nf3↑ Black has some pressure.

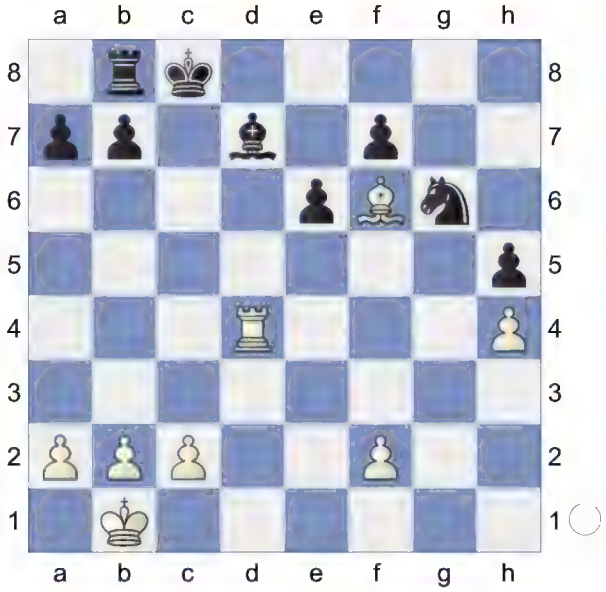
18.Bxg7? -4.51/24 White does not recover from this.

[18.Nd6= -0.29/22 Nxg1 *(18...Nxh2?* is the wrong capture. *19.Nxf7+ Ke7 20.Nxh8+-)* 19.Rxg1]

18...Nxg1-+ 19.Bxh8 Nxe2+ 20.Kb1 Bxc5



21.Bf6+ Kc8 22.Nd6+ Bxd6 23.Rxd6 Nf4 24.Rd4 Ng6 25.h4 h5

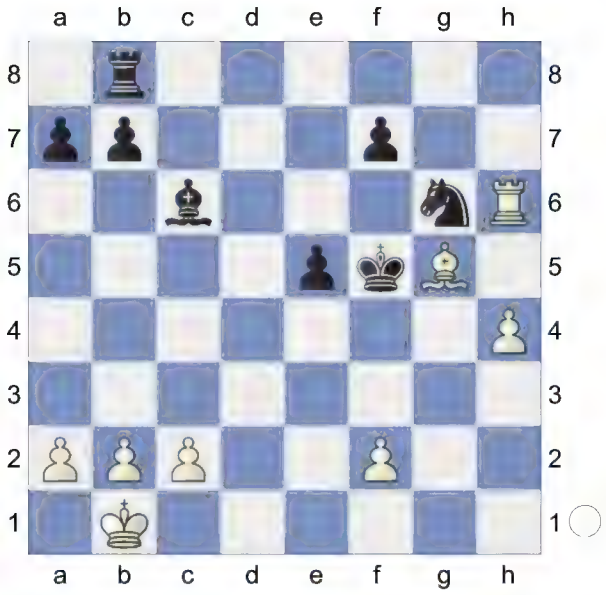


26.Rc4+ Bc6 ...e6-e5 is the strong threat. **27.Rc5 Kd7 28.Rxh5 e5 29.Rh6** -4.63/21

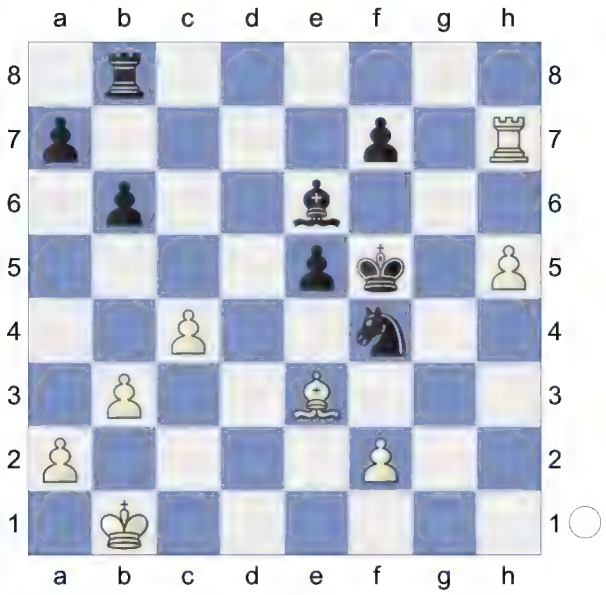
[29.Bxe5 -3.12/19 only move. Nxe5 30.Rxe5]

29...Ke6 30.Bg5 Kf5

(Diagram)

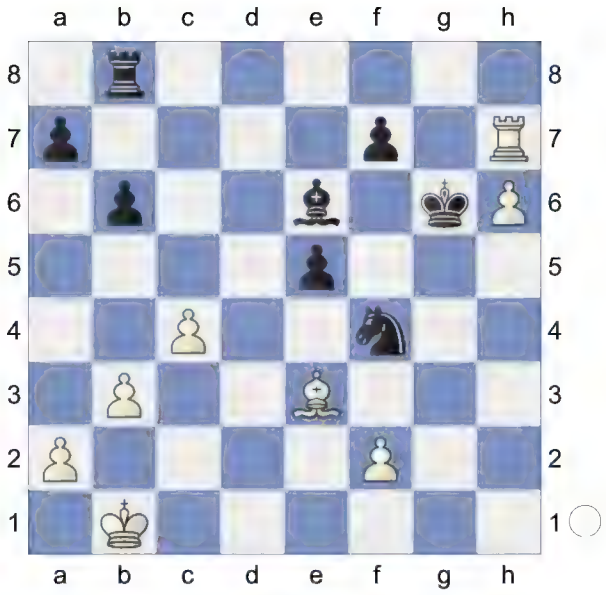


31.b3 Be4 32.Rh7 Bd5 33.c4 Be6 34.Be3 b6 35.h5 Nf4

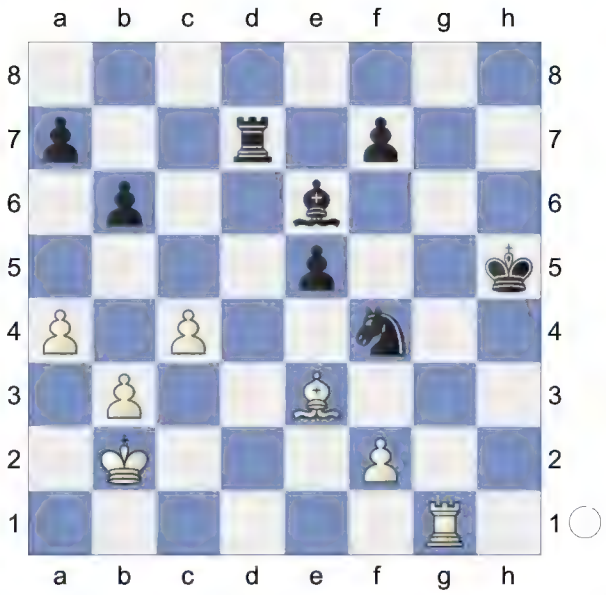


36.h6 -7.86/23
[⌓36.Kb2 -4.37/21]
36...Kg6

(Diagram)

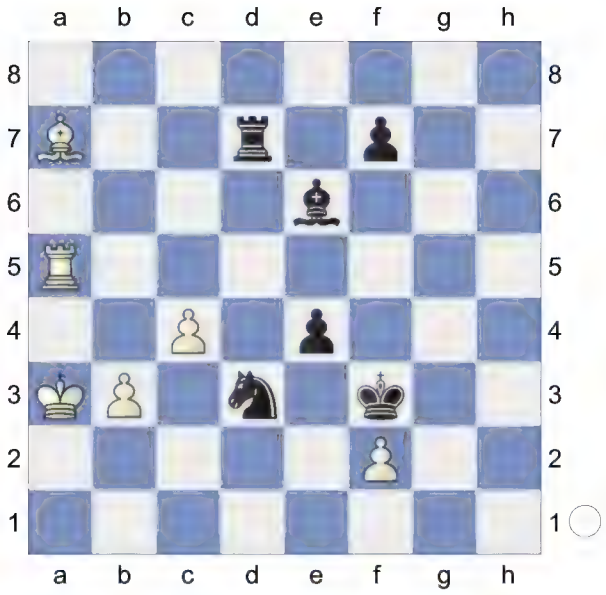


Deflection **37.Rg7+ Kxh6 38.Rg1 Rd8 39.Kb2 Kh5 40.a4 Rd7**

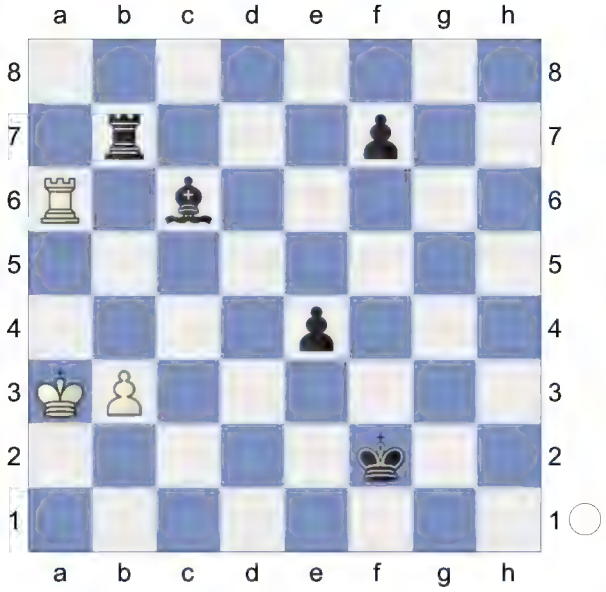


41.a5 bxa5 42.Ra1 Kg4 43.Rxa5 Kf3 44.Ka3 Nd3 45.Bxa7 e4

(Diagram)

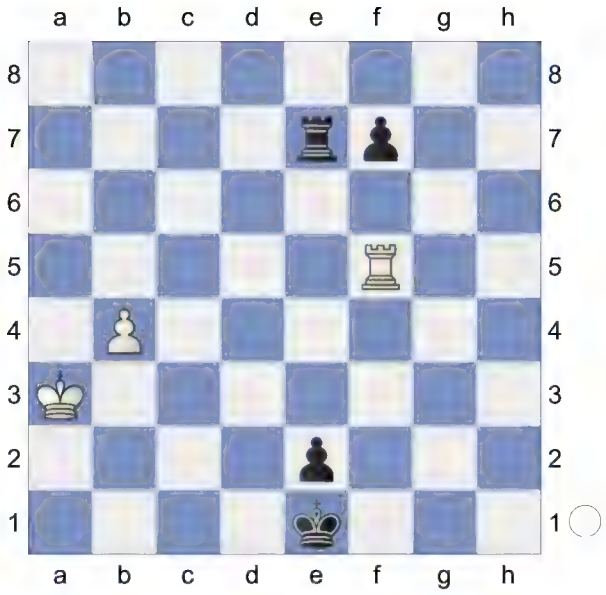


46.c5 Rb7 47.Bb6 Nxf2 48.Ra6 Bd5 49.c6 Bxc6 50.Bxf2 Kxf2



51.Rxc6 e3 (-> ...e3-e2) **52.Rf6+ Ke1 53.b4 e2 54.Rf5 Re7**

(Diagram)



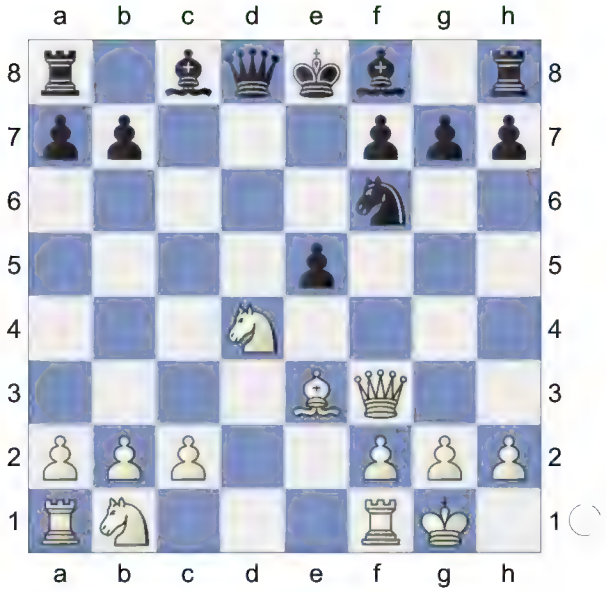
Weighted Error Value: White=0.55/ Black=0.28 (precise)
0-1

40 **C01**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2796**
■ **So,Wesley** **2812**
5. Norway Blitz 2017 (3.4) 05.06.2017
[John Watson]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

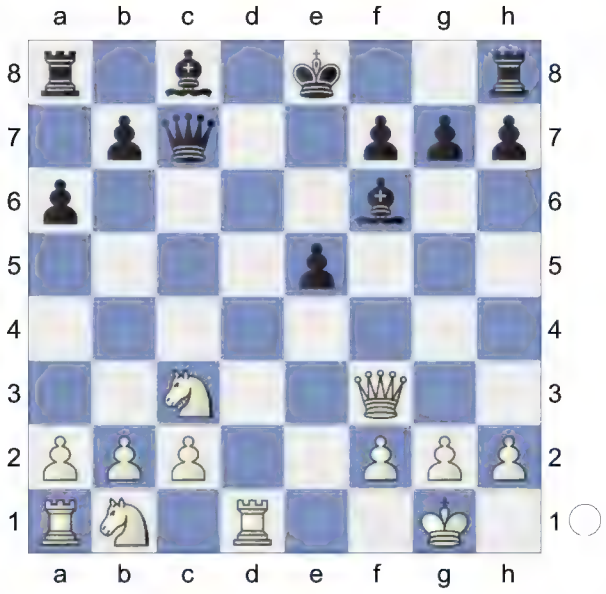
(Diagram)

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4
This is arguably the simplest solution.
[7...Nd5 0.30/19 7...c5xd4 -0.09 is seen in this month's game Kramnik-Caruana.]
[7...e5 seems to leave White only slightly better in the ending after 8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.dxe5 Qxd1+ 10.Kxd1 Ng4 11.Nd2 , even if Black should hold. A game this month continued Ba6 12.c4 -0.10/19 *(12.Re1± 0.33/18)* 12...Rd8 13.Kc2 Nxe5 14.b3 Ng4= 15.Nc3 Nxe3+ 16.fxe3 Be7 Heberla,B (2580)-Gdanski,J (2474) Katowice POL 2017]
8.Nxd4 Ne5 The position is equal. **9.0-0 Nxf3+**
[Years ago in this column Neil McDonald suggested 9...Be7!=]
10.Qxf3± e5!?
[10...Be7 11.Rd1 And now Nd4xe6! would win. Bd7 *(11...Qa5? 1.19/20* 11...Qd8-d5 0.29 *12.Nc6!)* 12.Qxb7 0-0 13.Nc3 Rb8 0.80/21 *(13...Qc8± 0.31/18* is more appropriate. *14.Qxc8 Rfxc8)* 14.Qxa7± Ra8! 15.Qb7! Rb8! 16.Qa6 Qc7!± with the idea ...Ng4 gives Black some compensation for the pawns. Prevents Nd4-c6.]

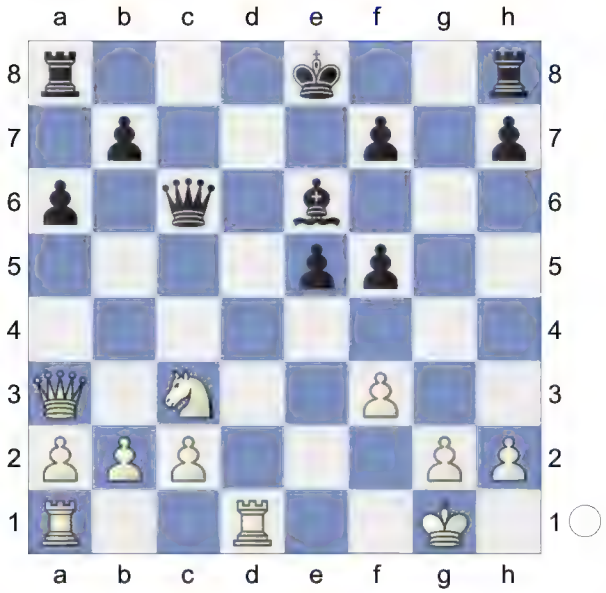


11.Nb5 a6 12.Rd1 Qa5
[The Archives game Bluvshtein,M (2463)-Hoang,T (2463) Budapest 2003 went 12...Bd7? 13.Nd6+ Bxd6 14.Rxd6 Qc7 1.33/21 Wards off Nb1-c3 *(*Black should play *14...0-0±* 0.59/20 *15.Nc3 Qe7)* 15.Rxf6!± gxf6 16.Qxf6±]
13.N5c3 Qc7N
[13...Be7 14.Nd2 0-0 15.Nde4 Be6 Unusual 2nd & 3rd moves-N,N French Defence 2020 16.Nxf6+ Bxf6 17.Nd5 Bxd5 18.Qxd5 Qxd5 19.Rxd5 Rfd8 20.Rad1 e4 21.Rxd8+ Rxd8 22.Rxd8+ Bxd8 23.c4 ½-½ Moskalenko,A (2533)-Mozharov,M (2539) Aeroflot Open B 2018 (8.1)]
14.Bg5?! -0.01/25
[14.Ne4 Be7 15.Nbc3]
[14.Ne4± 0.43/21 Be7 15.Nbc3]
14...Be7 0.46/20
[It's a Blitz game, and both sides missed 14...Bg4! 15.Nd5! 0-0-0!∓]
[14...Bg4= -0.01/25 15.Nd5 0-0-0 16.Nxc7 Rxd1+ *(16...Bxf3 17.Rxd8+*

Kxd8 18.gxf3=) 17.Qxd1 Bxd1]
15.Bxf6 Bxf6

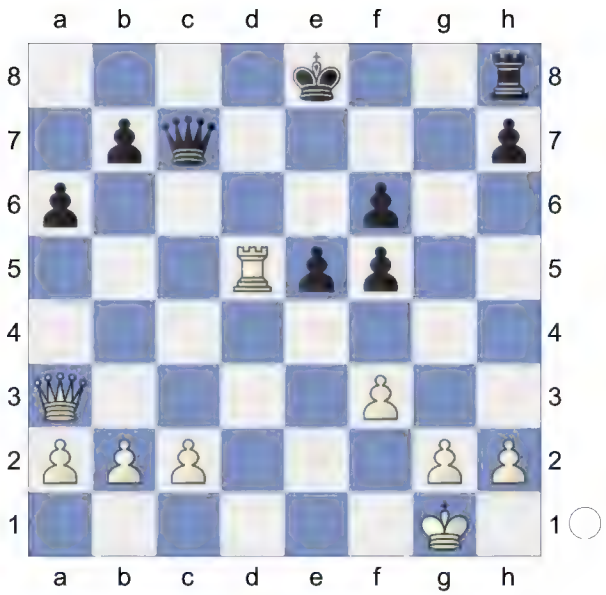


16.Nd5 Qc6 17.Qa3 Bg4?! 18.Nxf6+ gxf6 19.f3! Be6 1.04/22
[19...Qxc2± 0.32/22 20.Nd2 Bf5]
20.Nc3± f5

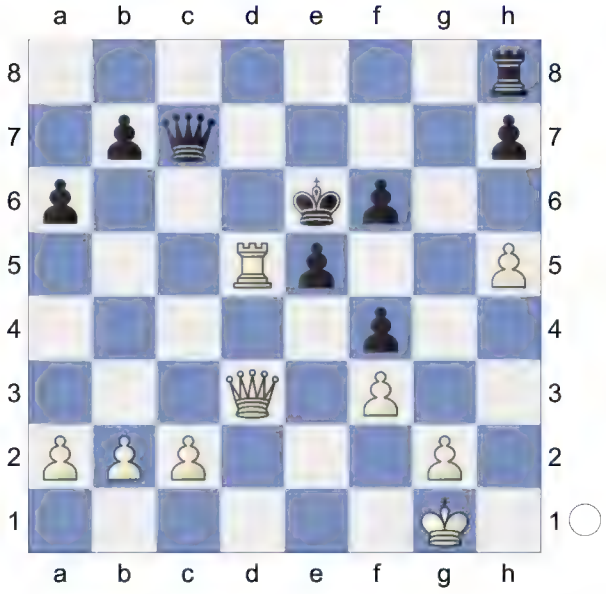


Prevents Nc3-e4 **21.Rd6 Qc7 22.Nd5! Bxd5 23.Rxd5 Rd8 24.Rad1 Rxd5 25.Rxd5** Endgame. Black still can't castle. KQR-KQR **25...f6**

(Diagram)

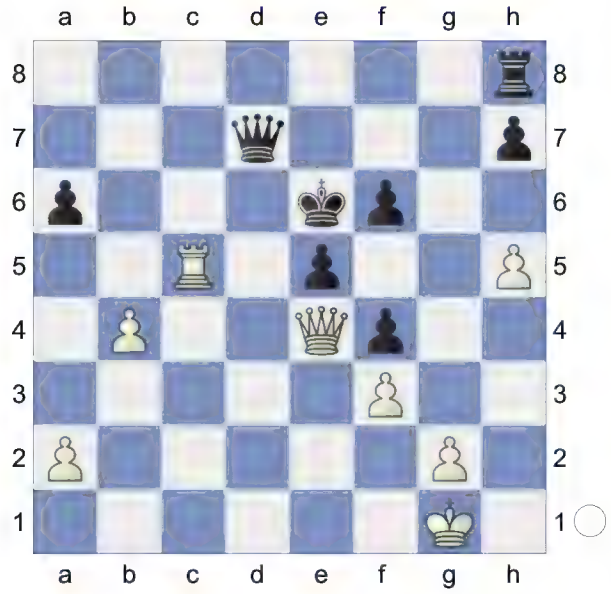


26.Qd3 f4 1.59/21
[Better is 26...Qc8 1.06/20 27.h3 Ke7]
27.Qf5 1.08/22
[White should try 27.h3 1.59/21]
27...Ke7 28.h4 Qc8 29.Qd3 White has more active pieces. **29...Qc7 30.h5 Ke6**



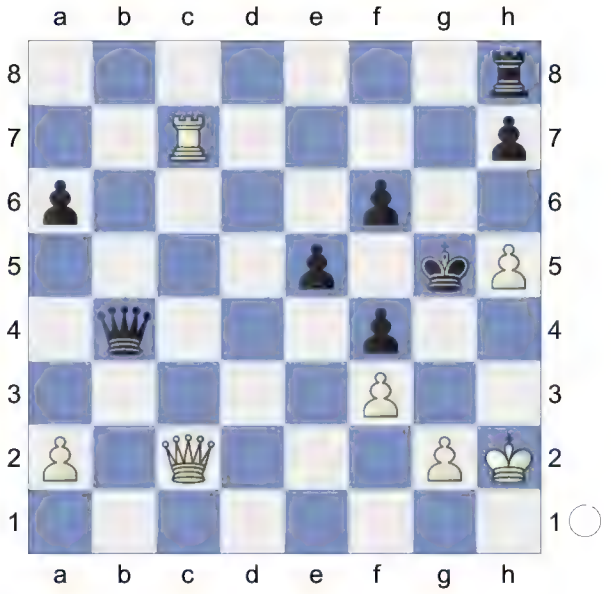
31.c4 Black must now prevent c4-c5.
31...b6 3.38/21
[31...Qc6 1.89/22 was necessary. 32.h6 b5]
32.b4+- with a winning position. **32...Qc6**

33.Qe4 Threatens to win with Rd5xe5+!
33...Qc7 3.45/21
[⌓33...Rc8 2.13/20]
34.c5 aiming for Rd5-d6+. **34...bxc5**
35.Rxc5 Qd7

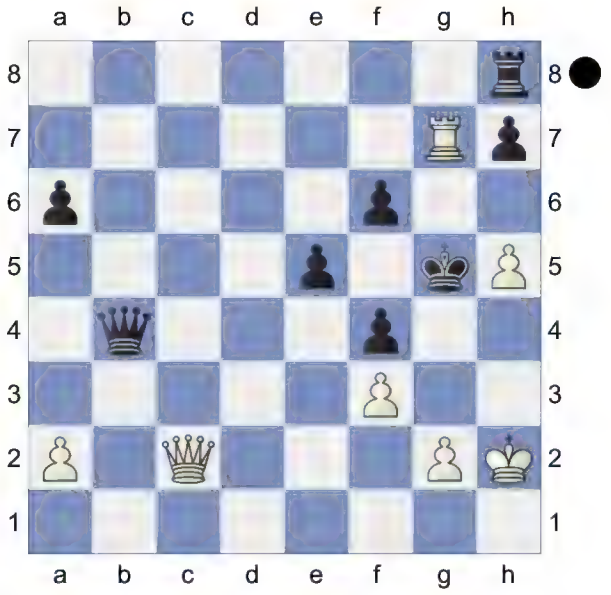


Inhibits Qe4-d5+. **36.Qc4+** 2.21/21
[36.Rc6+! Ke7 37.Qc2]
[36.Rc6+ 10.70/24 Ke7 37.Kh2 *(37.Rxa6 Qd4+ 38.Qxd4 exd4+-)*]
36...Kf5 37.Qc2+
[37.Qxa6 Qd2=]
37...Kg5

38.Rc7! Qd4+ 39.Kh2 White threatens Rc7-g7+ and mate. **39...Qxb4?** #4/10
[39...e4+- 2.09/22 40.Re7 *(40.fxe4 Qe3+-; 40.Qxe4 Qxe4 41.fxe4 Kxh5±)* 40...f5 41.fxe4 Rg8]



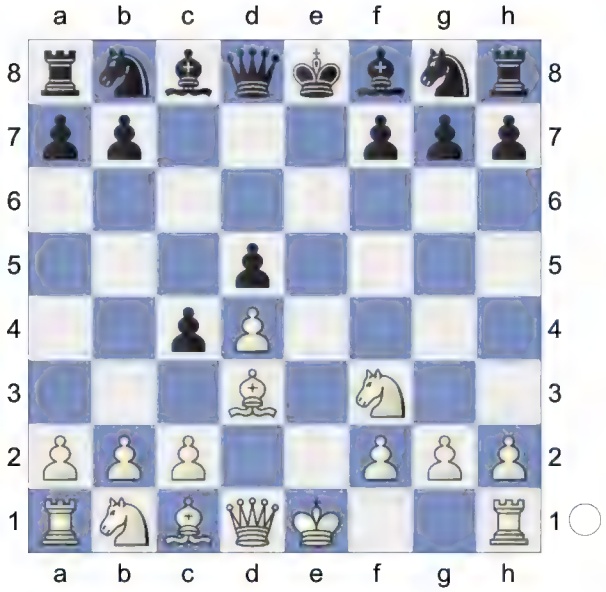
40.Rg7+!



Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.38
1-0

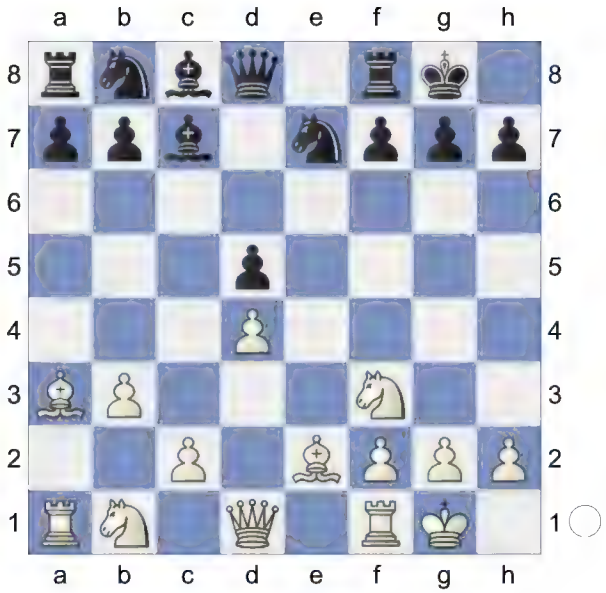
41 **C01**
□ **Kovalev,Vladislav** **2909**
■ **Yanchenko,Roman** **2467**
Chess.com INT blitz (4) 12.05.2020
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.exd5 exd5 5.Nf3 c4

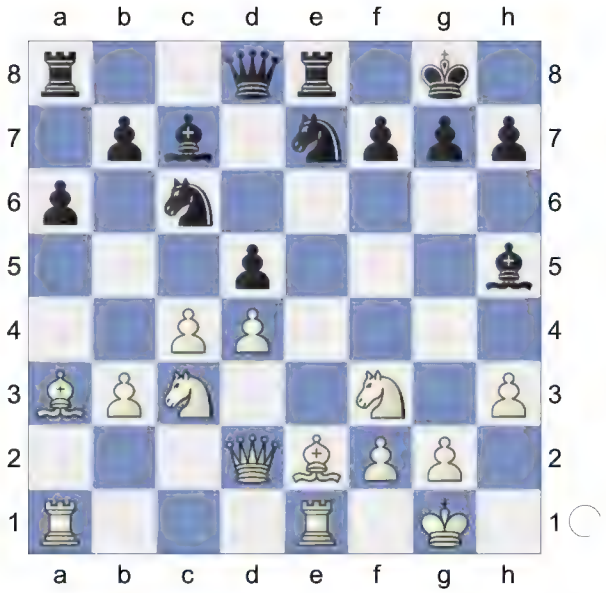


6.Be2 Bd6 7.b3 cxb3 8.axb3
The position is equal. **8...Ne7 9.0-0 0-0**
10.Ba3N
[10.Re1]
10...Bc7 0.53/18
[10...Nbc6= 0.12/16]

(Diagram)



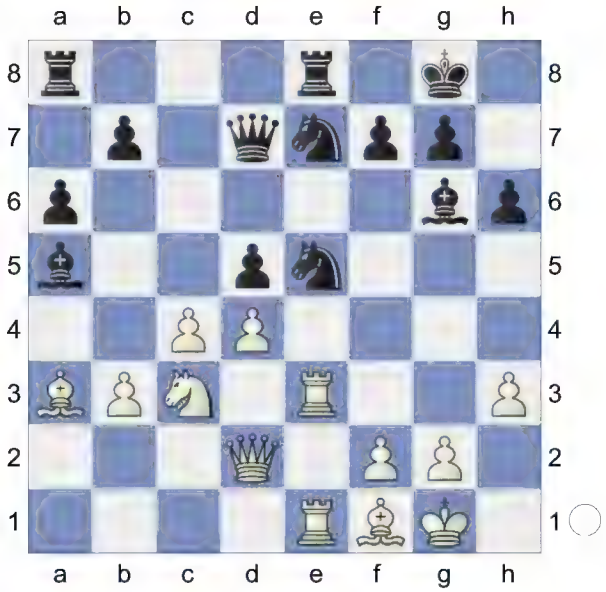
11.Re1 Nbc6 12.c4 Re8 13.Nc3
[13.Bd3 is more complex. Ba5 14.Ng5 g6 15.Nd2]
13...Bg4 14.h3 Bh5 15.Qd2 a6



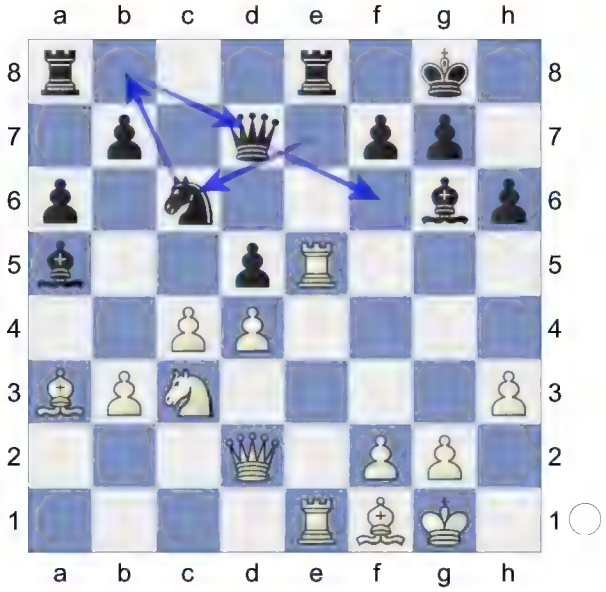
16.Rad1 Bg6 17.Bf1 Ba5 18.Re3
White is more active. **18...Qd7** 1.06/20
[18...Bb4± 0.53/17 19.Bxb4 Nxb4]
19.Rde1 h6? 2.52/23
[19...f6± 0.86/18 was necessary.]
20.Ne5 1.10/23
[20.b4+- 2.52/23 Bc7 21.Nxd5 *(21.cxd5 Na7+-)* 21...Nxd5 Remove Defender 22.cxd5

(22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 23.Rxe8+ Qxe8=)]

20...Nxe5±



21.Rxe5 Nc6

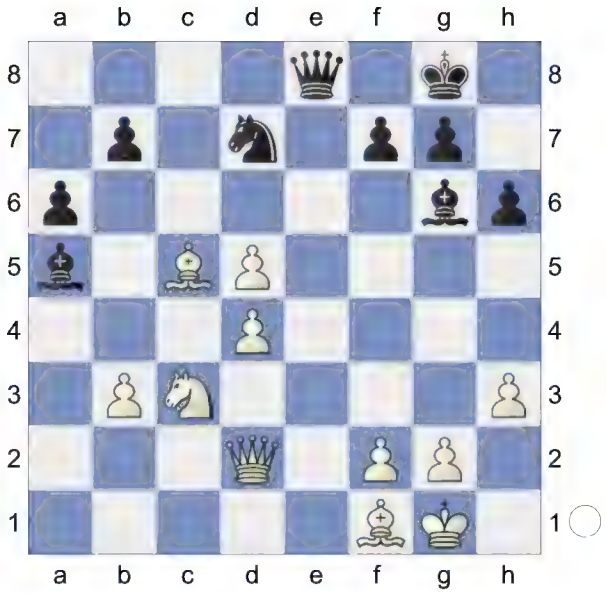


aiming for ...Re8xe5. **22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 23.Rxe8+**

[23.cxd5 Rxe1 24.Qxe1 Nxd4∓]

23...Qxe8 24.cxd5 Nb8 25.Bc5 Nd7

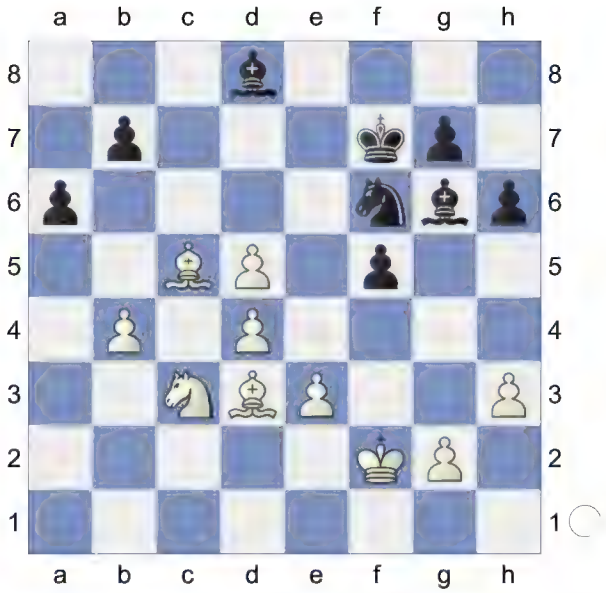
(Diagram)



Threatens to win with ...Nd7xc5. **26.b4 Bd8 27.Qe3 Qxe3 28.fxe3 f5** 2.03/20

[28...Bc2± 1.40/17 29.Kf2 h5]

29.Bd3+- Kf7 30.Kf2 Nf6



31.Bd6 Ne8 2.09/20

[31...Ne4+± 1.58/20 keeps fighting. 32.Nxe4 fxe4]

32.Be5 Be7 33.b5 a5 3.22/22

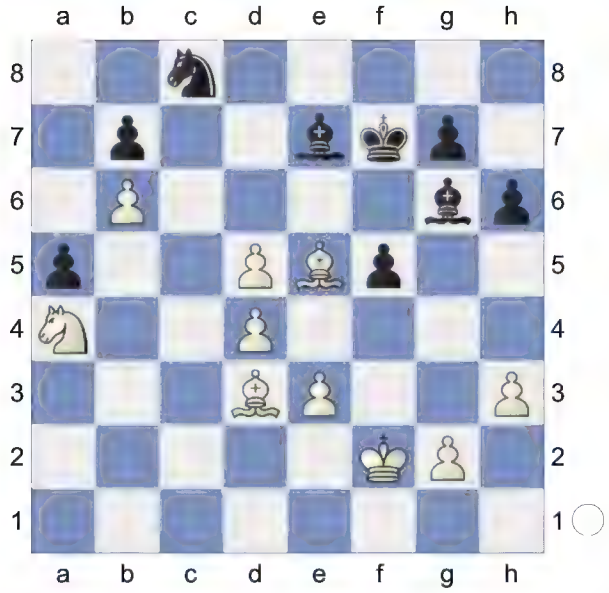
[33...Bb4 2.09/22 might work better.]

34.b6 Hoping for Bd3-a6! **34...Nd6** 3.56/22

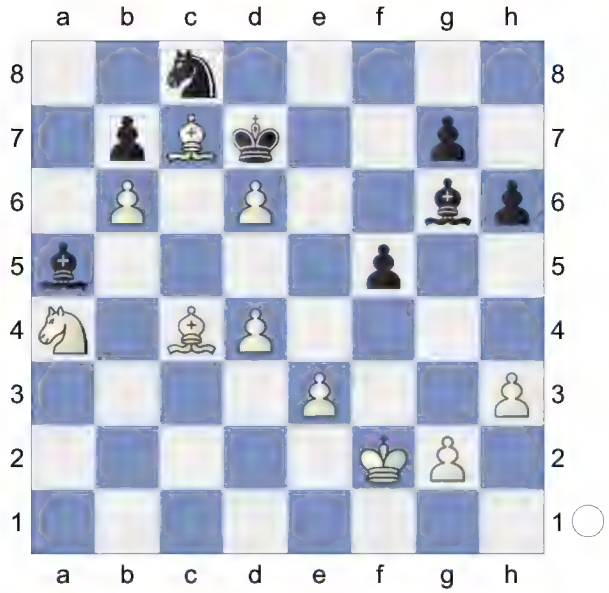
[⌓34...Nf6 2.49/20 35.d6 Bd8]

35.Na4 Nc8? 5.77/20

[35...Kf8 3.41/21 was called for. 36.Nc5 a4 37.Nxa4 Bf7 38.Bxd6 *(38.Nc3 g6+-)* 38...Bxd6]



36.Bc7 Bb4 37.Nc5 a4 38.Nxa4 Ba5 39.d6 Ke6 40.Bc4+ Kd7



Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/ Black=0.55

1-0

42 **C01**

□ **Kovalev,Vladislav** **2648**

■ **Erigaisi,Arjun Kumar** **2559**

PNWCC Online Blitz JP 14 (3) 20.06.20

[John Watson]

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5

The position is equal. The position is equal. **9.Nc3**

[9.Be2 is seen in Admiraal-Skembris in the Archives]

[9.0-0 Nxf3+ 10.Qxf3 e5 has been played in several Archives games, and has proven to be equal. Thus White has switched to tries like the text.]

9...Bb4 Two alternatives of note:

[9...Be7 10.Qe2 Nxf3+ 11.Qxf3 0-0 12.0-0-0

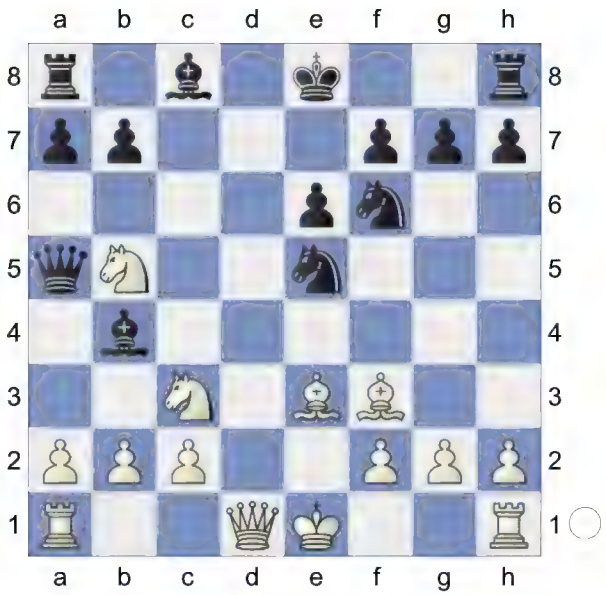
A) 12...Bd7 13.g4!? Qa5 14.Rhg1 *(14.g5!? Nd5□ 15.Nf5±; 14.g5!? Nd5□ 15.Nxd5 Qxd5 16.Qxd5 exd5 17.Rhg1=)* 14...Rac8 ...Rc8xc3 is the strong threat. 15.g5! Nd5 16.Nxd5! exd5

17.Kb1±;
B) 12...Qa5 13.g4± Onischuk,V (2633)-Holt, C (2549) chess.com INT 2020]
[9...a6 is the most popular move: 10.Qe2 (deeming that it's worth a tempo to play 0-0-0) Nxf3+
A) 11.Nxf3 Be7 *(11...b5! 12.Bd4 Bb7 13.0-0-0 Qc7=)* 12.Bd4 0-0 13.0-0-0 Qc7∞ Khusnutdinov,R (2491)-Vitiugov,N (2747) Moscow 2019;
B) 11.Qxf3 e5! 12.Nf5?! *(12.Nde2 Be7 13.0-0 Qc7=)* 12...Qa5! (threatening ...e4). White must now prevent ...e5-e4. 13.Ng3 Qb4 *(13...Bb4!? 14.Bd2 Bg4 15.Qe3 0-0-0∓)* 14.Nge4?! *(14.Bg5 Bg4 15.Qe3 Nd7∓)* 14...Bg4?? 1.64/23 *(14...Nxe4! 15.Qxe4 Qxe4 16.Nxe4 Bf5 17.f3 Rc8 18.0-0-0 Be7∓; 14...Nxe4∓* -0.39/24 stays ahead. *15.Qxe4 Qxe4 16.Nxe4 f5; 14...Nxe4=* -0.19/22 and Black is okay. *15.Qxe4 Qxe4 16.Nxe4 f5)* 15.Nxf6++- gxf6 16.Qd5?? -3.07/20 *(16.Qxf6 Rg8 17.Qxe5++-; 16.Qxf6+-* 1.88/22 was the only winning move. *Rg8 17.Qxe5+ Qe7 18.Qxe7+ Bxe7 19.Nd5;* 16.Qxf6+- 1.67/22 and all is fine. *Rg8 17.Qxe5+ Qe7 18.Qxe7+ Bxe7 19.Nd5)* 16...Qxb2-+ Onischuk,V (2633)-Keymer,V (2558) chess.com INT 2020]

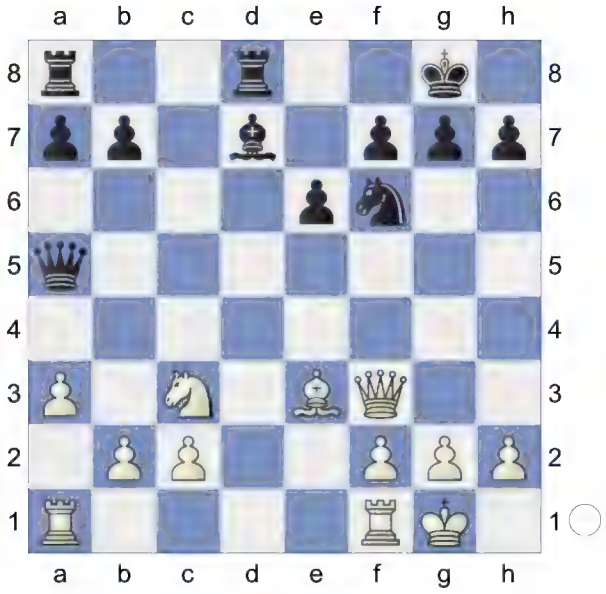
10.Ndb5 Black should prevent Qd1xd8+.
[10.Qe2?! -0.50/20 10.Nd4-b5 -0.09 10.Nd4-b5 0.25 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 Qa5? 0.30/24 *(11...Nxf3+ 12.Qxf3 0-0∓; 11...0-0∓* -0.46/21; *11...0-0∓* -0.58/21 *)* 12.0-0? -0.14/21 *(12.Qb5+ Qxb5 13.Nxb5 Nxf3+ 14.gxf3±; 12.Qb5+* 0.29/22 deserves consideration. *Qxb5 13.Nxb5 Nxf3+ 14.gxf3;* ⌓*12.Qb5+* 0.30/24 *Qxb5 13.Nxb5 Nxf3+ 14.gxf3)* 12...a6 *(12...0-0∓)* 13.Bf4 Nxf3+ 14.Qxf3 0-0= Sunilduth Lyna,N (2618) -Stupak, K (2520) chess.com INT 2020]

10...Qa5
[In a previous column we looked at 10...Bd7 Threatens to win with ... Ne5xf3+. White must now prevent ... Ne5xf3+. 11.a3 Bxc3+ 12.Nxc3 Nxf3+ 13.Qxf3
A) I gave 13...Bc6 as an improvement: 14.Qg3 0-0
A1) 15.Bg5 Nh5 16.Qh4 Qa5! with the idea 17.Qxh5?! -0.48/21 *(17.0-0-0!?; 17.0-0-0=* -0.01/21 *)* 17...Qe5+∓ 18.Ne2! Qh5-g4 would now be deadly. Hoping for Qh5-g4. f6∓;
A2) 15.Bh6 Nh5 16.Qg4 Qf6=;
B) 13...Bc6= 0.11/21 was preferrable. 14.Qg3 0-0;
C) 13...Qc7 0.50/21 14.Bf4 0.12/21 *(14.Qg3±* 0.50/21 feels stronger. *Qxg3 15.hxg3)* 14...Qc6 1/2-1/2 (14) Alekseev,E (2635)-Stupak,K (2561) St Petersburg RUS 2019 *(14...Qb6* looks more accurate *)* 15.Qd3!±]

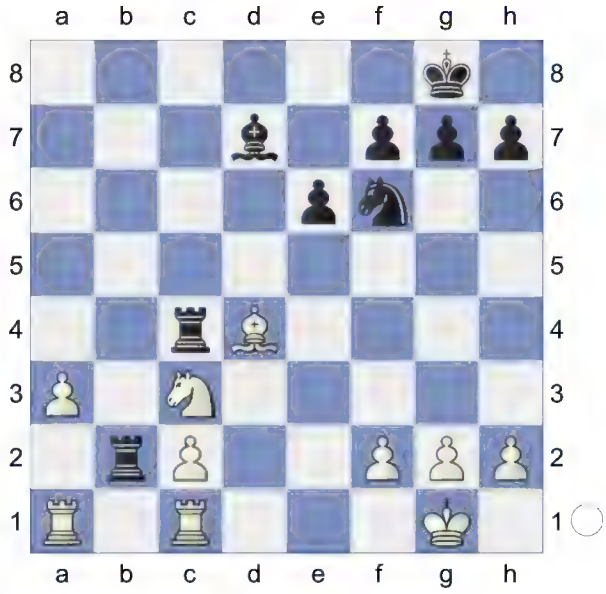
(Diagram)



11.0-0 0-0
[11...Nxf3+! 12.Qxf3 a6! 13.Qg3 0-0! 14.Nc7! Nh5 *(14...Bxc3!? 15.Nxa8 Be5=)* 15.Qh4 Qxc7 16.Qxb4 Bd7!=]
12.a3 Bxc3 13.Nxc3 Rd8 14.Qe2 Nxf3+ 15.Qxf3 Bd7N

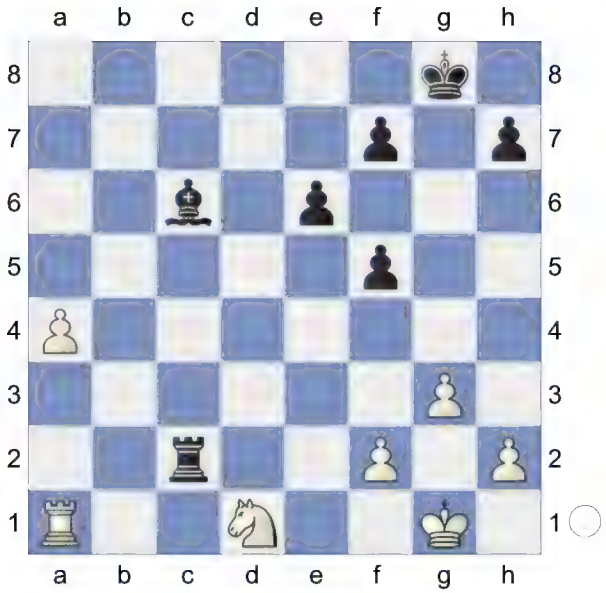


16.Qxb7 Rab8 17.Qxa7 Qxa7 18.Bxa7 Rxb2 19.Rfc1
[19.a4!? 0.40/22 19.Rf1-c1 0.83 19.Rf1-c1 0.80 Rxc2 20.Rfc1 Rxc1+ 21.Rxc1 Rc8= 0.40/20 *(21...Ra8= 0.01/21 22.Bb6 Rc8)*]
19...Rc8 20.Bd4 aiming for Nc3-d5!
20...Rc4

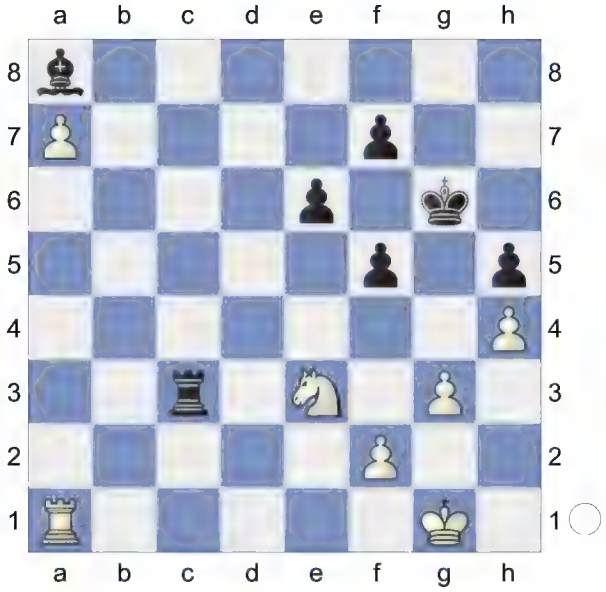


21.Bxf6 0.06/21
[21.Rd1!± 0.75/24]
[21.Rd1± 0.67/24]
21...gxf6= 22.Nd1
[22.Rab1 Rxb1 23.Nxb1 f5 24.Kf1 Kg7 25.Ke2 Kf6 and Black's activity compensates for White's extra (and weak) pawn.]
22...Rbxc2 23.Rxc2 Rxc2 Endgame. KRB-KRN **24.a4 f5 25.g3 Bc6?** 0.62/23
[25...Bc8 26.a5 Strongly threatening a5-a6. Ba6=]
[25...Bc8= -0.11/25]
[25...Rc7= -0.10/25]

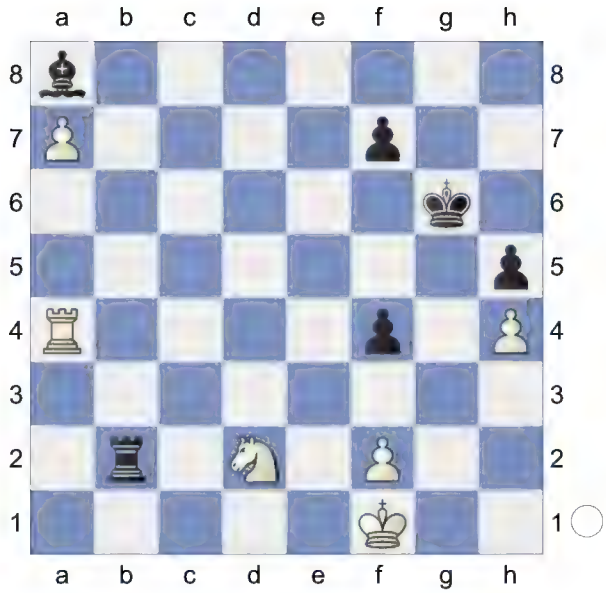
(Diagram)



26.a5± Kg7 27.a6 Ba8 28.Ne3 Rc3
[28...Rb2±]
29.a7 h5 30.h4
[30.Kf1 h4 31.Ke2±]
30...Kg6



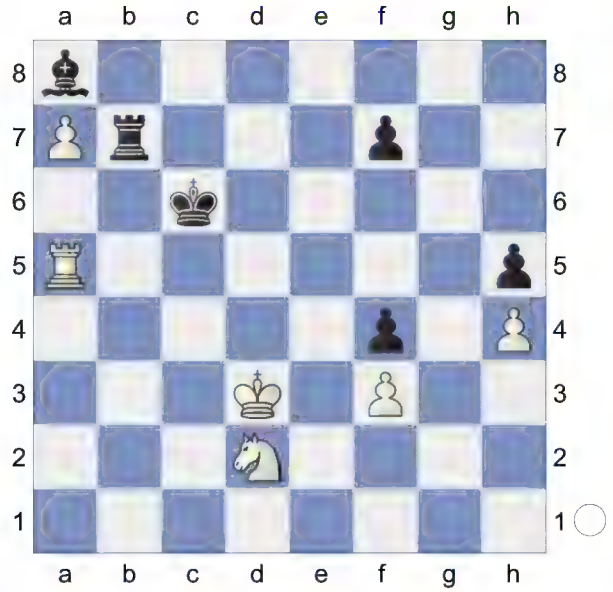
31.Kf1 e5 32.Ra4 And now Ne3-c4 would win. aiming for Ne3-c4. **32...f4!?**
33.gxf4 exf4 34.Nc4
[34.Rxf4?! -0.01/24 34.Ne3-c4 0.85 Ra3=]
[34.Rxf4?! Ra3=]
34...Rb3 Dodges Nc4-b6. Against Nc4-b6 **35.Nd2 Rb2**



36.Ke2 Kf5?! 1.45/25
[36...f3+!? 37.Ke3 f6 38.Kd3 Kf5±]
[⌓36...f3+ 0.94/23 37.Kd3 Rb6]
[⌓36...f3+ 0.90/24 37.Kd3 f5 38.Ra6+ Kg7]
37.f3
[37.Ra5+!
A) 37...Kf6 38.Kd3±;
B) 37...Kf6± 1.37/23 38.Kd3 Rb7 39.Ne4+ Ke7 1.37/20 *(Black should play 39...Kg7+-* 1.85/20 *)*;
C) 37...Kf6± 1.45/25 38.Kd3 Rb7;
D) 37...Kg4? 2.40/23 38.Rg5++- Kxh4 39.Rg8]
37...Ke6 38.Kd3
[38.Rxf4?! -0.01/23 38.Ke2-d3 1.60 Ra2=]
[38.Rxf4?! Ra2=]
38...Rb7 39.Ra6+?! In what follows, White gives away his advantage, Black gets to a completely drawn position, and then in the typical Blitz scramble White ends up winning:
[39.Rxf4? -0.01/24 39.Ra4-a6+ 1.59 Rxa7 40.Rd4 Ra3+ 41.Ke2 Bd5=]
[39.Rxf4 Rxa7 40.Ke2 Ra2=]
39...Kd5 40.Ra5+ 2.30/20

[40.Ne4± 2.18/20 40.Ra6-a5+ 1.24]

40...Kc6+-



41.Nc4

[41.Rxh5 0.45/22 41.Kd3-e4 1.28 Rd7+ 42.Ke2 Threatens to win with Rh5-a5. Re7+ 1.05/22 *(42...Rxa7± 0.44/23 43.Rf5 Kd6)* 43.Ne4± Rxa7±]

[41.Rxh5?! Rxa7 42.Rf5 Kd6=]

41...Re7 1.75/20

[41...Rb3+± 0.99/20 42.Ke2! Rb7]

42.Kd4

[42.Rxh5 simplifies Rxa7 43.Rf5 Rd7+ 44.Kc3]

42...Kb7 2.21/21 Against Ra5-a6

[42...Rd7+± 1.28/21 43.Ke4 f6]

43.Nd6+

[43.Rxh5 Kxa7 44.Rf5 Bxf3±]

43...Kb6 1.57/22

[43...Kc7+- 1.49/21 43...Kb7-b6 2.49]

44.Nc4+ 0.01/21

[Better is 44.Rxh5± 1.57/22 Nd6-c8+ would now be deadly. Rd7 45.Ke5]

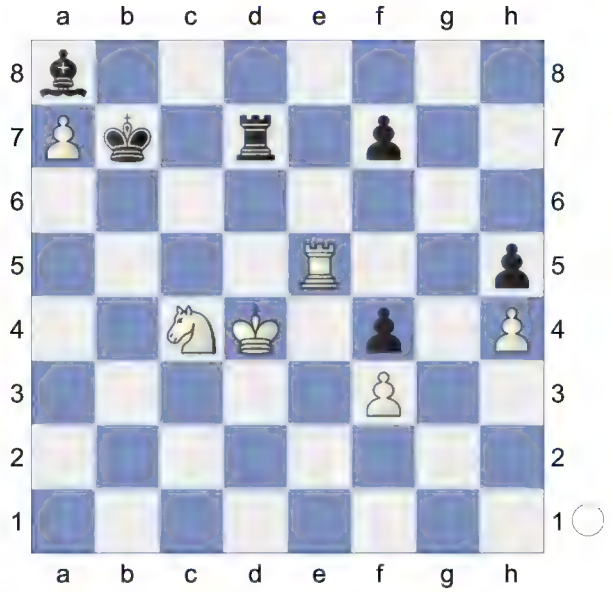
[44.Rxh5± 1.48/24 Rd7 45.Ke5]

44...Kb7= 45.Re5 0.71/22

[White should try 45.Rf5+- 1.66/21]

[⌓45.Rf5 1.23/23]

45...Rd7+±



46.Kc5 0.02/24 White is more active.

[46.Kc3!± 0.89/23]

[46.Kc3± 0.64/24]

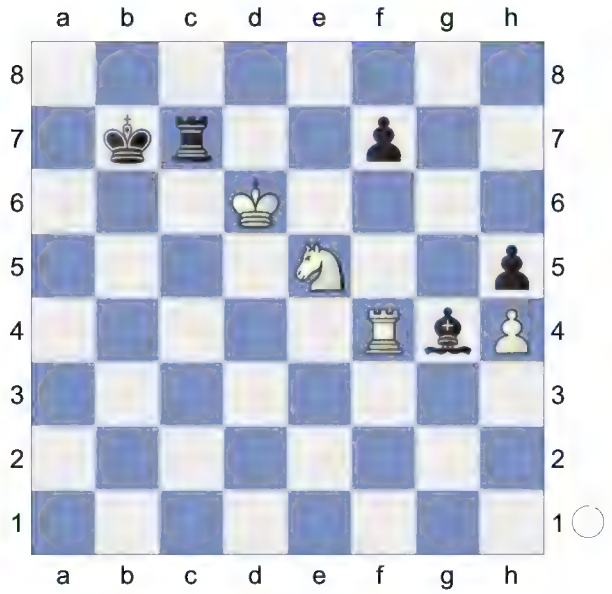
46...Kxa7= 47.Rf5 Bxf3 48.Rxf4 Bg4

49.Ne5 Rc7+ 1.44/23

[Black should play 49...Rd1± 0.45/21]

[49...Rd2= 0.18/23 remains equal.]

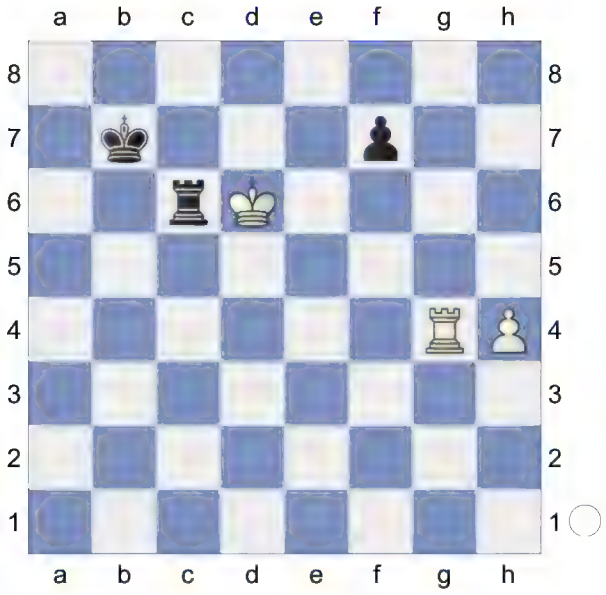
50.Kd6± Kb7



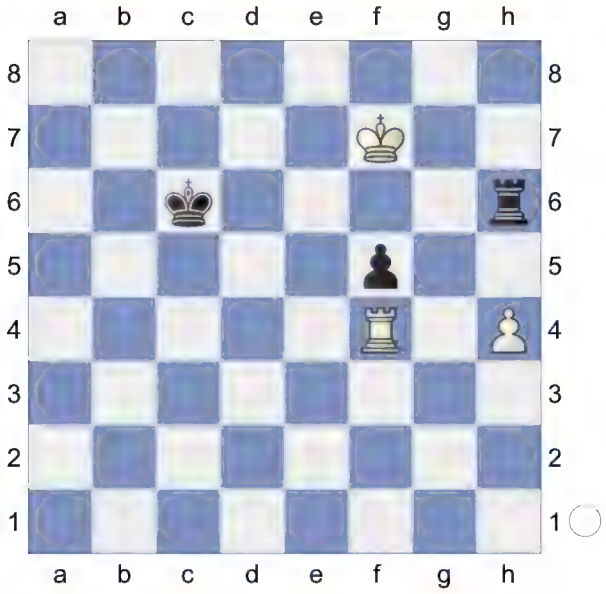
51.Nxg4

[51.Nxf7?! 0.07/21 51.Ne5xg4 0.85 Rc2=]

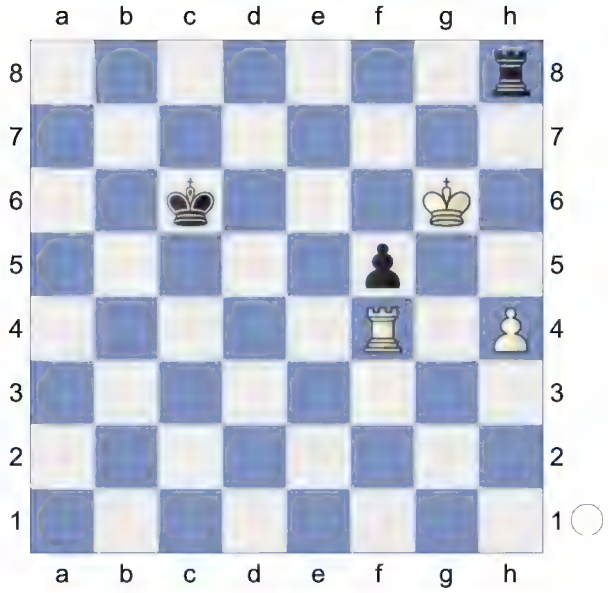
[51.Rxf7?! Rxf7 52.Nxf7 Kc8=]
[51.Nxf7 Rc1=]
[51.Rxf7?! Rxf7 52.Nxf7 Kc8=]
51...hxg4 52.Rxg4 KR-KR **52...Rc6+?** 8.76/28
[52...f5± 1.09/25 53.Rf4 Rh7]
[52...f5= 0.24/27 53.Rf4 Rh7]



Black cannot hold the game after this.
53.Ke7!+- f5 8.13/27
[⌓53...Rh6 4.97/25 54.Kxf7 Rh8]
54.Rf4 Rh6 55.Kf7 Kc6

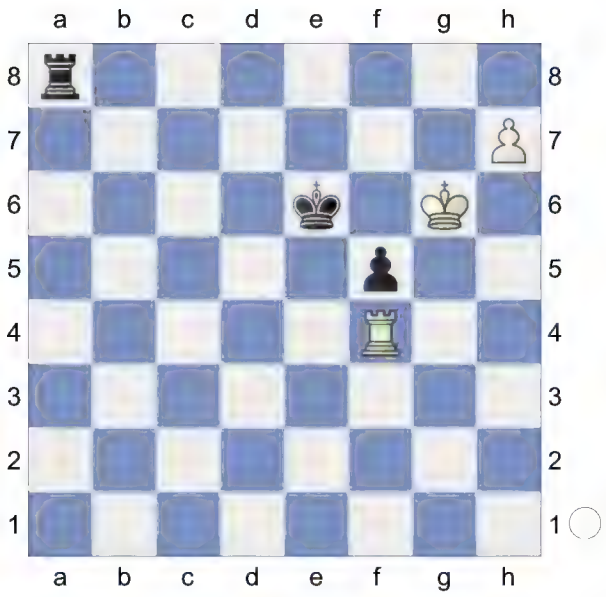


56.Kg7 Dodges Rh6-h8
[56.Rxf5? 0.00/28 56.Kf7-g7 7.80 Rxh4 57.Kf6 Rh7=]
[56.Rxf5 Rxh4 57.Kg8 Rh1=]
56...Rh5 57.Kg6! Rh8

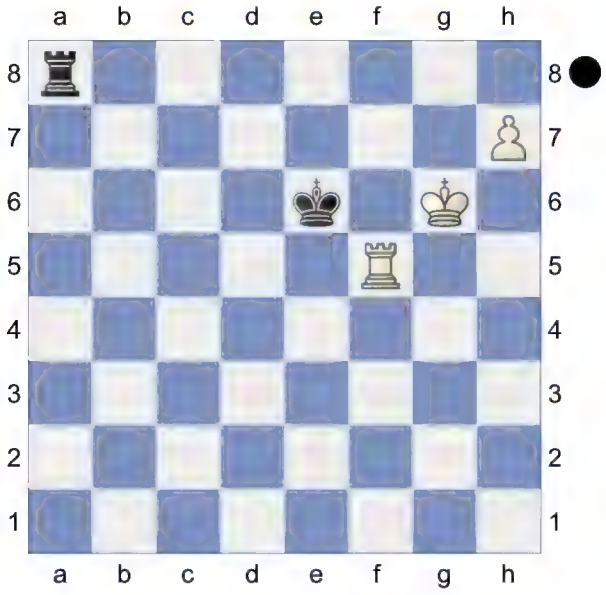


58.h5!
[Inferior is 58.Kxf5? 0.00/94 58.h4-h5 9.92 Rf8+ 59.Kg5 Rxf4 60.Kxf4 Kd7=]
[Inferior is 58.Kxf5 Rf8+ 59.Kg5 Rxf4 60.Kxf4 Kd7=]
58...Kd7 59.h6
[Weaker is 59.Rxf5? 0.01/26 59.h5-h6 9.88 Ke6!=]
[Worse is 59.Rxf5 Ke6=]
59...Ke6 60.h7 Prevents Rh8-g8+. Against Rh8-g8+
[Not 60.Rxf5? 0.00/94 60.h6-h7 5.77 Rxh6+ 61.Kxh6 Kh6-g6 would kill now. Kxf5=]
[And not 60.Rxf5 Rxh6+ 61.Kxh6 Kxf5=]
60...Ra8

(Diagram)



61.Rxf5



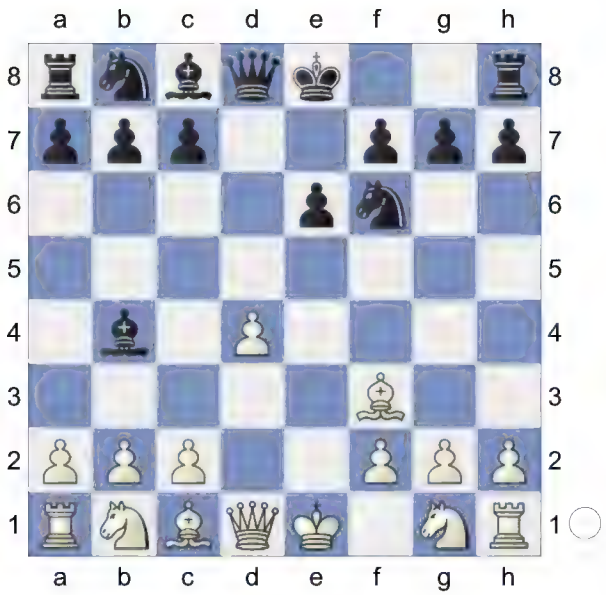
Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.25 (precise) .
Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.30
1-0

43 **C01**
□ **Onischuk,V** **2609**
■ **Abrashkin,B** **2407**
Titled 9th Nov Early (3) 19.11.2024
[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

And for the last game of this study we're gonna see Onischuk going into another opposite colours bishops endgame and snatching a win because I think it's funny.
C01: French: Exchange Variation
Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Bb4+!?**

[5...c5 6.Ne2 Be7 7.Nbc3 *(7.Be3 0-0 8.dxc5 Qc7 9.0-0 Rd8 10.Qc1 Bxc5 11.Nbc3 Na6 12.a3 Bd7 13.Ng3 Bd6 14.Rd1 Be5 15.Bd4 Nc5 16.Qe3 Bxd4 17.Rxd4 Rac8 18.Rad1 b6 19.h3 Be8 20.Qd2 Rxd4 21.Qxd4 h6* ½-½ (83) Nguyen,M (2052)-Esipenko,A (2695) Titled Tuesday intern op 04th Feb Early blitz 2025 (3) *)* 7...0-0 8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 f5 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 Bc4 20.b3 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4)]

(Diagram)



A new idea here. This is not played at all almost and the only master player that played it was FM Nikolay Khnykin in 2021 against WFM Barbara Skuhala. Point is that black wants to force c3 or pin the knight that's gonna come to c3.

6.c3

[6.Nc3 Absolutely an option. 0-0 7.Nge2 Re8 8.a3 Bf8 This is how the game could've went if Nc3 was played, yes it looks weird, but it is actually nothing new to put the rook on e8 and bishop on f8. Now black wants Nbd7 and e5.]

6...Be7N

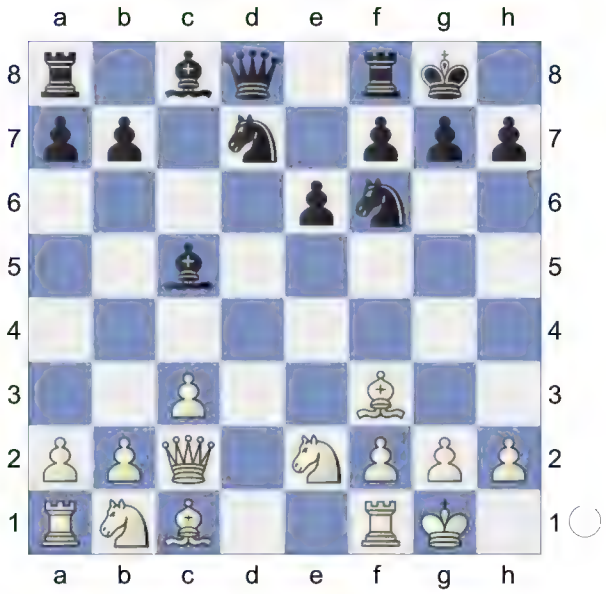
[6...Bd6?! Retreating to d6 with the bishop is bad as after 7.Nd2 0-0 8.Nc4± as you can see this bishop is simply just a target. Now white is looking for Ne2-Be3 and O-O. A standard set-up for white. Re8 9.Ne2 Nc6 10.Be3 Bd7 11.Ng3 e5 12.Nxd6 cxd6 13.d5 Ne7 14.0-0 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-5...Bb4+]

7.Ne2 0-0 8.0-0 The position is equal. **8...c5 9.dxc5** Bishop already moved, so it's a reason to take like this. **9...Bxc5 10.Qc2?!** The point of this is that at some point, you want to play Rd1. But here it's just not so good as black can just develope normally.

[10.b4 Don't know why this wasn't played, it's extremely logical to play like this. Be7 11.Bf4 Nbd7 Nbd7 is better then Nc6 here as you now want e5. 12.Bg3= a5 13.b5 e5 ...e5-e4 would now be deadly. 14.Nd2=]

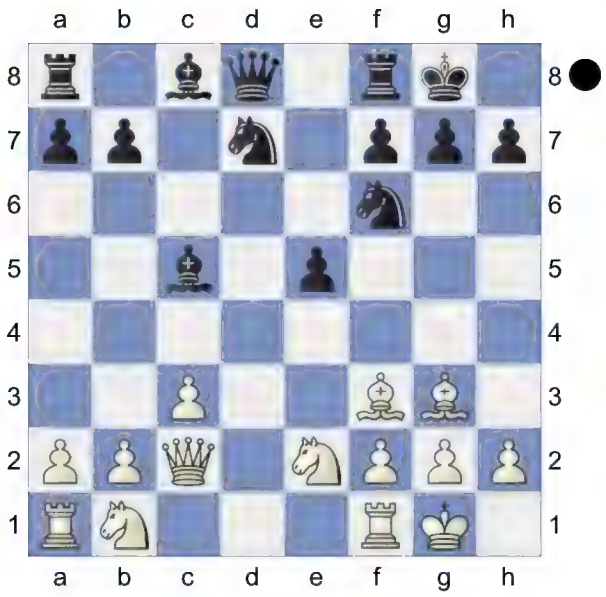
10...Nbd7?!

[10...Nc6 11.Bg5 Ne5 12.Nd2 Qc7∓ Rd1 now isn't as good, black also has an easy game. Bd7 is a simple idea for black to try and put his rooks in the center. White wants to put his rooks in the center as well.]

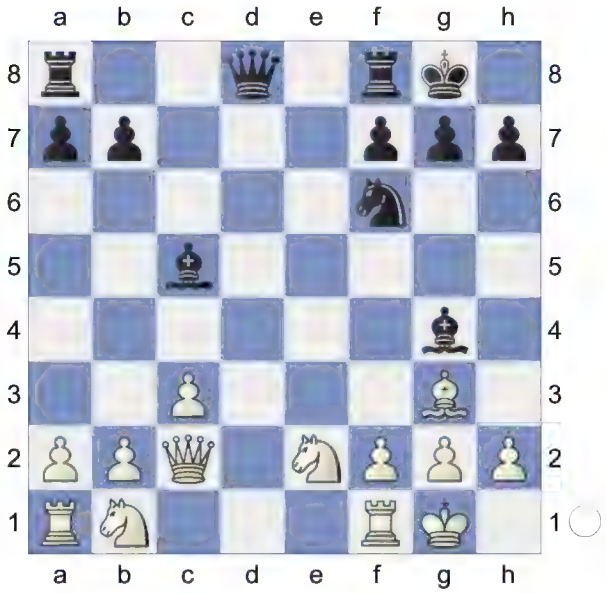


But Abrashkin plays this wrong and goes for the idea of e5. **11.Bf4** Inhibits Nd7-e5. **11...e5 12.Bg3**

(Diagram)



e4! 13.Bxe4 Nxe4 14.Qxe4 And out of the opening, Abrashkin has the bishop pair, but Onischuk is up a pawn. **14...Nf6 15.Qc2 Bg4!?**



Interesting way to develope a bishop, abusing the fact that f2 pawn is pinned. **16.Nf4?!** This just runs into g5. White is weak on the light squares

[16.h3?! -0.46/20 16.c3-c4 0.28 h3 here isn't really good as black overall wants to take the knight. Bxe2! 17.Qxe2 Re8 18.Qf3 Ne4∓ This way black is very active then white and has the open files for himself.]

[16.Nc1 This would've made much more sense to rotate to b3 or e3 and play Nd2 which can also go to b3 or c4. Re8 17.Nd2± Inhibits Nf6-e4.]

16...g5 0.37/19

[16...Re8= -0.07/19]

17.Nd3± Bf5! A very good pin.

[17...Bb6? 0.98/20 17...Bg4-f5 0.16 Retreating the bishop is really bad because of 18.Ne5 Be6 19.Rd1± and all of a sudden, white's position becomes alive. Nd2 or Na3 followed by Nc4 is something white wants now. Also, g5 is now a huge liability.]

18.Rd1 This is what Onischuk played, but he sadly missed a brilliant move here.

[18.Qc1!! Sacrificing the horse. Only move for black is to take and the threat is Qxg5+ Bxd3 19.Qxg5+ Kh8 20.Be5! Be7! 21.Rd1 and now the position is very dangerous for black. Only move for black is Rg8 *(21...Rc8?? 2.52/23* 21...Rf8-g8 0.01 If black is slow for just a second, there is always *22.Qe3+-* and white is now completely winning being up 2 pawns. *)* 22.Qe3 -0.38/24 and white is now threatening to take the bishop, which means black has to continue with *(22.Qf4=* 0.01/26 *Rg6 23.g3)* 22...Rxg2+!∓ sacrificing the rook! *(22...Qd5??* 2.56/21 22...Rg8xg2+ -0.24 If for example this is played looking for a checkmate and Rad8, that's losing after *23.g3 Rad8 24.Bd4!+-* and now the bishop is not protected and cannot move since the threat is (if it moves) to take the knight with check and then the queen.*)* 23.Kxg2 Be4+! *(23...Qg8+??* 4.52/20 23...Bd3-e4+

-0.06 If this for example, then after *24.Kh1 Bg6 25.Qf3+-* white is simply up a rook and is completely winning.*)* 24.Qxe4!! And then white has to sacrifice the rook back!!! Black cannot take the queen because the knight is pinned. Qxd1 25.Qf3! And now this is the only move for a draw. *(25.Qf5??* -1.88/23 25.Qe4-d4 -0.40 If this, then after *Rg8+! 26.Bg3 h5!* h4 is coming and white is lost. If. Hoping for ...h5-h4. *27.Qf4 Qd5+ 28.f3 Nh7-+* black just has an unstoppable attack with all 4 of his pieces participating while white's 2 pieces are in the corner of the board.*)* 25...Rg8+! *(25...Qxf3+??* 1.49/22 25...Ra8-g8+ -0.49 If black had traded the queens, after *26.Kxf3 Kg8* ttrying to get rid of the pin, white can play *27.Nd2 Rc8 28.Bd4 a6 29.Re1 Kf8 30.Re5* and white wants to play Nb3-Nc4. e.g. *Rc6 31.Nb3 b5 32.Nc5+-* White is now extremely active and black's position is gonna slowly fall appart after Rf5.*)* 26.Bg3 Rd8 27.Be5!= And in the end, this is a draw by repetition. This is what the engine wants, but Rd1 keeps the game. This is pretty forcing, both sides having only 1 option that doesn't lose at all times. Overall white needs to maintain the pin and if black tries to play on with something like Kg8 0.01/22 *(27...Kg7!∓* -0.50/20 *)* 28.Bd4= Qc1 29.Bxf6 Bxf6 30.Qxf6 Rd1 it's still a draw here after 31.Nd2! Qxa1 32.Qg5+ Kf8 And now ... Rd1-g1+ would win. 33.Qd8+= as it's the move repetition.]

18...Re8? This is simply a mistake because of Qc1 threatening Qxg5+.

[18...h6!= Black must protect the weak g pawn.]

19.Na3? -0.49/23 Onischuk doesn't see it though and voluntarily damages his structure by allowing Bxa3.

[19.Qc1! This is the only move for the advantage, sacrificing the knight once again. Be3! This is the only defensive resource and it's also a brilliant thing to play. The reason why it's the only defensive resource is that now Qxg5+ is never gonna be possible. *(19...Bxd3??* 1.95/20 19...Bc5-e3 0.50 This is a blunder because white's rook is already on d1 here unlike in the other position, meaning it's not under the attack of black's LSB. *20.Qxg5+! Kh8* Threatens to win with ...Nf6-e4. *21.Qxc5+-)* 20.fxe3 Bxd3± White is obviously better as g5 is still a wekness and white can look to play Na3-Nc4 (at least he wants that), but black now can still look and play for a draw.]

[19.Qc1!± 0.64/23 Be3 20.fxe3 Bxd3 21.c4]

19...Bxa3∓ 20.bxa3 h6

21.c4 Qd4! 22.Qb2 Rad8 Understandable decision, but you don't want to

trade on your own terms here.

[22...Qxb2! 23.Nxb2 Re2 This is much better simply because you hit the knight with Re2. After. Strongly threatening ...Ra8-e8! 24.Nd3! Ne4 Wards off Nd3-c5 25.Nb4 Rc8 26.Rac1 Nxg3 27.hxg3∓ black is a bit better because of white's awful pawn structure even though white is up a pawn.]

23.Qxd4 Rxd4 The reason why this is not as good is because Re2 doesn't come with an attack on the knight and now there is also Nc5. **24.Ne5** -0.47/23 But Onischuk goes the wrong way and goes to e5. The reason why this is wrong is because Nc5 also stops Ne4, but now Ne4 is possible.

[24.Nc5! Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 b6 26.Nb3 Ne4 Ne4 is now possible again as you can see, but after 27.f3 Nxg3 28.hxg3= white's pawn structure might be horrible, but black cannot exploit that with only 1 rook. He needs 2 rooks for that.]

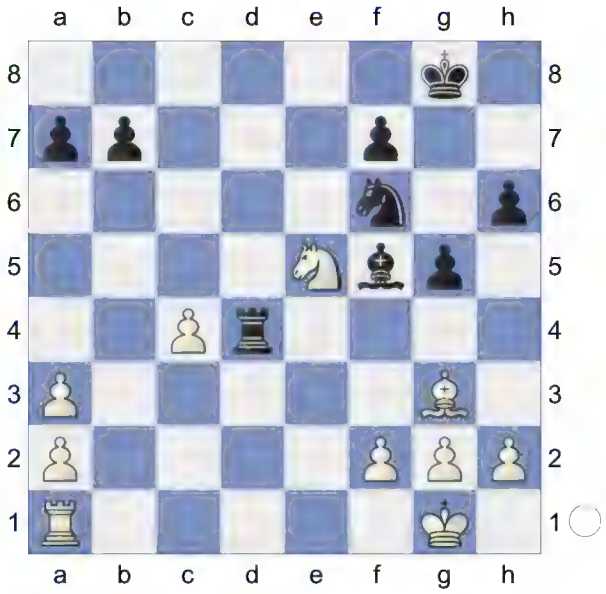
[24.Nc5= -0.01/23 Rxd1+ *(24...Rxc4 25.Nxb7 Re2 26.Nd6=)* 25.Rxd1]

24...Red8?! 0.15/22 But black didn't trade the rooks and plays this.

[24...Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 Ne4 Black should've went for this. Threat is to take on g3, so white's forced to play 26.f4! and after gxf4 27.Bxf4 f6 28.Nd7! Kg7 White must now prevent ...Re8-d8. 29.Rd5 Kg6∓ black is a bit better as after h4 he has h5 and white's pawn structure is so awful. The reason why this isn't equal unlike the other position where the rooks were traded is because of active piece play from both sides and because black has a horse here. If there are more pieces on the board, there are more chances for black since he is still down a pawn. Yes, it's opposite colours bishops, but there is a lot to be played.]

[24...Rxd1+∓ -0.47/23 25.Rxd1 Ne4]

25.Rxd4= Rxd4



This is a complete draw now since everything white has is completely protected and after f3, there is no Ne4.

26.f3 Inhibits Nf6-e4. **26...Nd7 27.Nxd7** -0.39/22

[White should play 27.Bf2= 0.27/23 Rd2 28.Ng4 *(28.Nxd7 Bxd7 29.Bxa7 Bc6=)* 28...Bxg4 29.fxg4]

27...Bxd7 Endgame. Opposite colours bishops, it's a complete draw by theory. KRB-KRB **28.Rc1 Bc6** -0.01/21

[28...Rd3∓ -0.43/21]

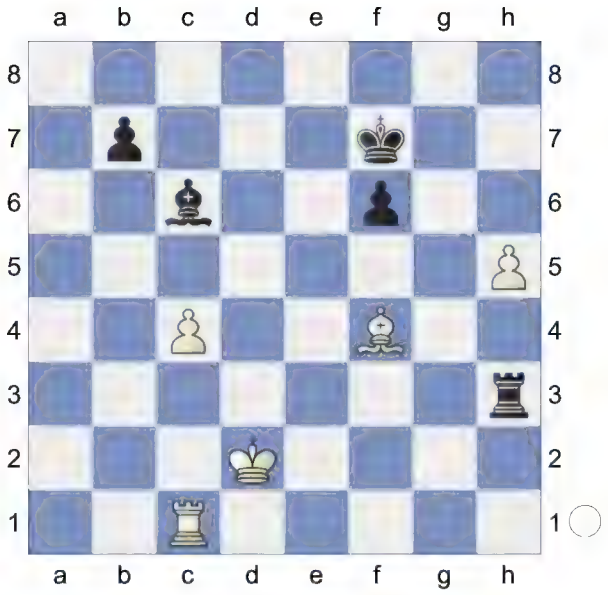
29.Bf2 Rd2 30.Bxa7 g4

(Diagram)

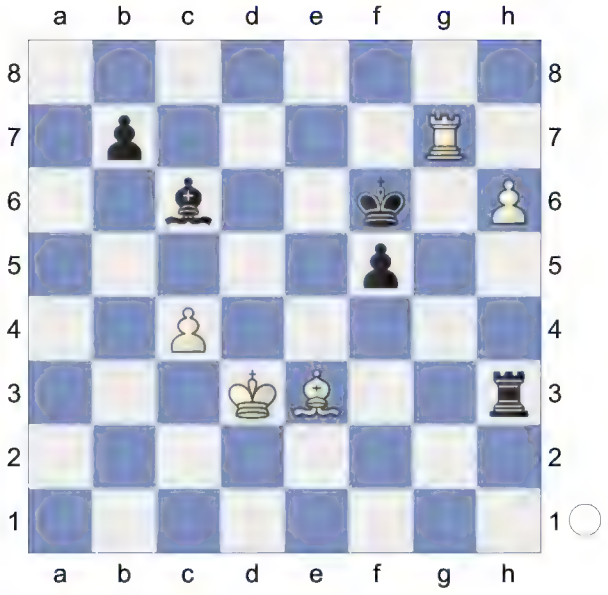
31.Be3 Rxa2 32.Bxh6 gxf3 33.gxf3 Bxf3 34.Bf4 Bc6 35.Kf1 Rxa3

36.Ke2 Ra2+ 37.Ke3 f6 38.h4 Kf7 39.h5 Ra3+ 40.Kd2 Rh3

(Diagram)



41.h6 Rh4 42.Be3 Rh2+ 0.47/20
[42...f5= -0.01/19]
43.Kd3 0.00/20
[43.Kc3± 0.47/20]
43...Rh3 44.Rg1 f5 0.72/20
[44...Ke6= 0.01/21]
45.Rg7+ 0.01/24
[45.Kd2± 0.72/20]
45...Kf6



...f5-f4 is the strong threat. **46.Kd4** Intending Be3-g5+ and mate. **46...Rh4+ 47.Kc5** Now this is very critical here. Only 1 move for black. So despite there

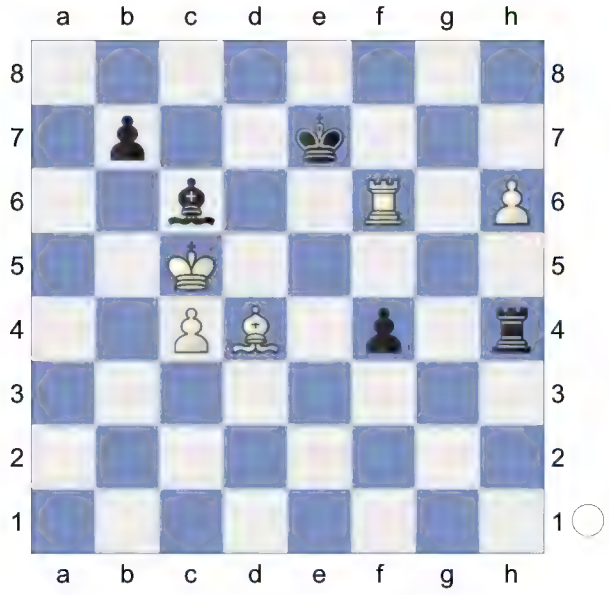
being opposite colours bishops, Onischuk puts Abrashkin into an almost losing position because of how close the h pawn is to the promotion. The threat is Bg5+ which is a mate in 2. **47...f4!** Abrashkin found it.

[47...Ke6?? 16.37/19 47...f5-f4 0.00 If for example Ke5 to not get hit with Bg5+, there is 48.Bg5!+- anyways. Now it's still mate, black cannot get away from it. The threat is Re7# and black's best try is]

48.Bd4+ Ke6! 49.Rg6+

[49.h7 with more complications. f3 50.Kb4 Rh2 51.Bc5]

49...Kf7 50.Rf6+ Ke7



51.Be5 f3 Black's pawn is also dangerously going down the board, position is tense no matter it's a theoretical draw due to the opposite colours bishops.

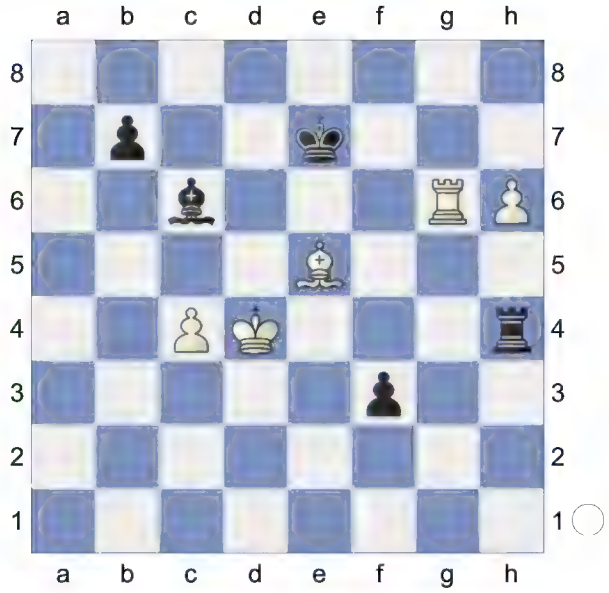
[51...Rh5!? 52.Kd4□ f3=]

52.Rg6!= This was the only move for the draw. **52...Rh5**

[52...f2 53.Rf6= The reason why this is a draw is that Rh3 doesn't come with a check so the promotion is not guaranteed as white will just take on f2.]

[Resist 52...f2 53.Rf6∓]

53.Kd4 Kf7 54.Rf6+ Ke7 55.Rg6 Rh4+



56.Kd3?? -7.64/22 In time trouble, Onischuk blunders a rook after Be4+.

[56.Kc3?? -5.18/24 56.Kd4-c5 0.01 If this was played, it's a blunder because after f2 white cannot stop the promotion. e.g. 57.Rf6 -10.16/22 *(⌓57.Bf6+ -4.69/21 Kd7 58.Bxh4)* 57...Rh3+!-+ Bishop is gonna go to f3 and block rooks vision of the pawn and the pawn will promote.]

[56.Kc5= 0.01/25]

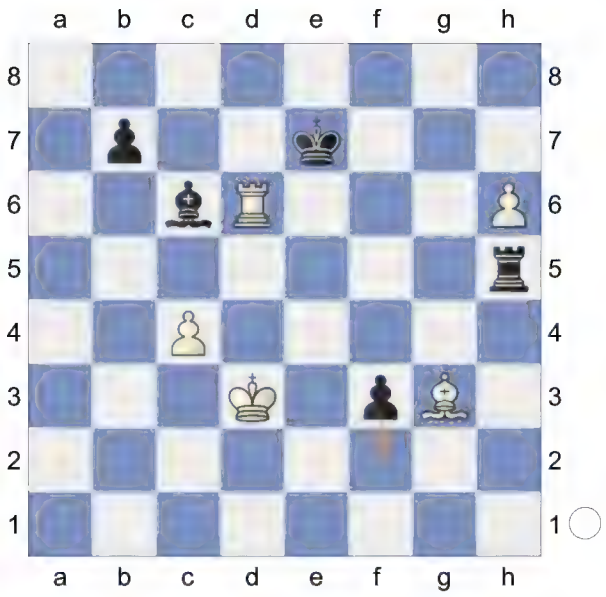
56...Rh5?? 0.01/21 Abrashkin doesn't spot it though.

[56...Be4+ 57.Ke3 Bxg6-+]

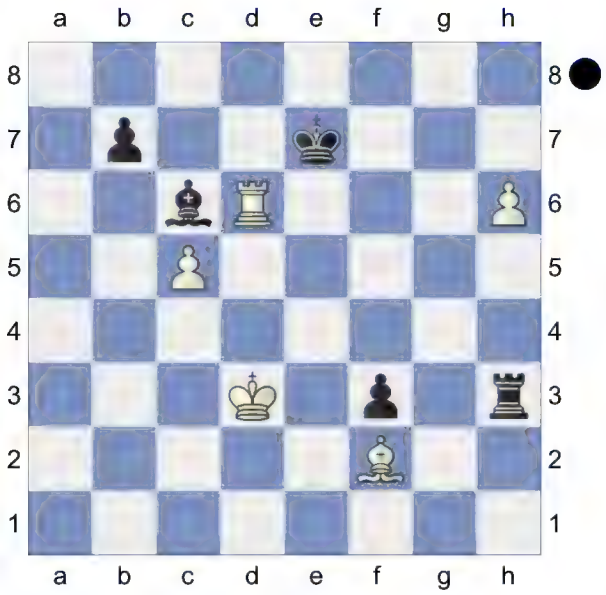
[Black should try 56...Be4+-+ -7.64/22 57.Ke3 Bxg6 58.Kxf3 Rxc4]

57.Bg3 Kf7 58.Rd6 Ke7

(Diagram)

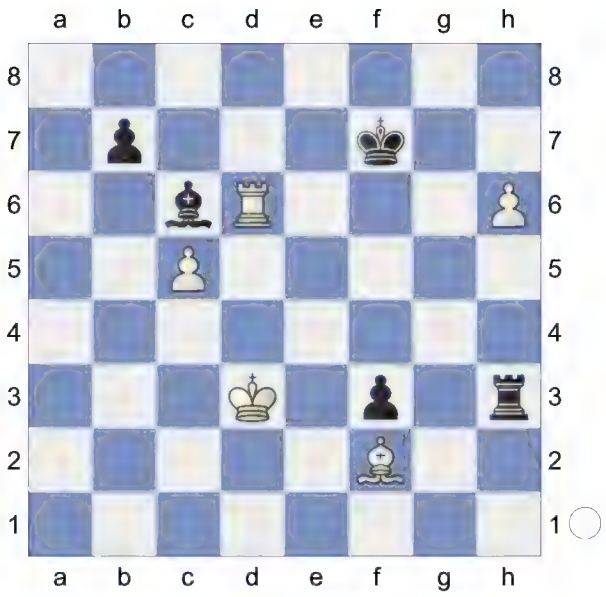


aiming for ...f3-f2! **59.c5** -1.21/24 **Rh3!∓**
60.Bf2

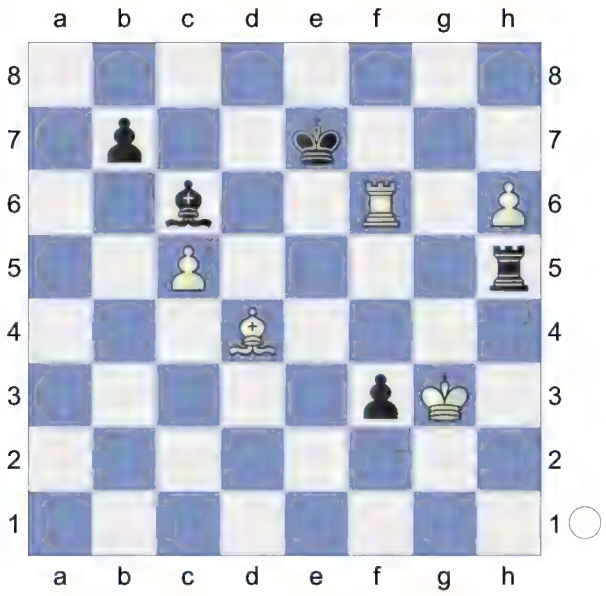


Kf7 -0.01/24
[60...Rh2!∓ -1.19/26 61.Ke3 Kf7]

(Diagram)



61.Ke3 -1.24/25
[61.Kc4= -0.01/24]
61...Ke7 0.01/23
[Better is 61...Rh2∓ -1.24/25]
62.Kf4 -0.36/25
[62.Kd3= 0.01/23 was preferrable.]
62...Rh1 0.14/24
[62...Rh2∓ -0.36/25 63.Bg3 *(63.Ke3 Kf7∓)* 63...f2]
63.Bd4 -0.26/24
[⌓63.Kg5 0.14/24]
63...Kf7 64.Kg3 Rh5 65.Rf6+ Ke7



66.Rg6 Kf7 67.Rg7+ Ke6! Only move.

[67...Kf8?? 6.79/23 67...Kf7-e6 0.00 If this, white just pushes the pawn. 68.h7! Be4 69.Rg8++- White promotes.]
[67...Ke8?? This also loses to h7. 68.h7 Be4 69.Rg8++-]

68.h7 Now this is terrifying and there is only 1 move for a draw and that's Be4.

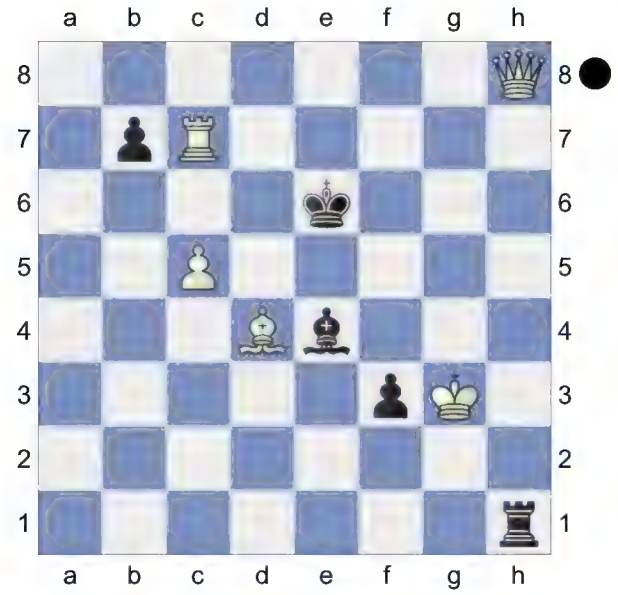
68...Rh1?? 3.71/26 Abrashkin misses it and is now completely lost after Rc7 because the promotion is guaranteed.

[68...Be4!= White cannot protect the pawn and black will get it and it will be a draw.]
[68...Be4= 0.00/22 and Black is okay.]

69.Rc7 Be4? 6.85/32

[69...f2 3.43/20 70.Kxf2 *(70.h8R f1Q 71.Rxc6+* Remove Defender *bxc6 72.Rxh1 Qxh1 73.Kf4 Kd5 74.Bg7 Qe4+ 75.Kg5 Ke6 76.Bc3 Qe3+ 77.Kg4 Qxc3 78.Kf4 Qe1 79.Kg4 Qe3 80.Kh5 Kf5 81.Kh4 Qc3 82.Kh5 Qh8#)* 70...Kd5]

70.h8Q



Abrashkin here resigned for the obvious reason. Yes, Onischuk won another opposite colours bishops endgame. It was because of a blunder, but Be4 is really hard to spot in the time trouble so it's understandable that he won. Quite a comeback for White.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.23 (precise)

1-0

44 **C01**
□ **Onyshchuk,Volodymyr** **2612**
■ **Wang,Hao** **2707**
Al-Ain Al-Ain UAE (4.1) 26.12.2015
[Prathamesh,Sunil Mokal]

Wang Hao described this as his best game of the tournament. Let us have a look...

C01: French: Exchange Variation

https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'Now this game is a bit different, it's not flashy like the rest but I think it's a solid way of showing the line 5...Nbd7 in the Main Line and covering it. In the end, the point of the study, except to entertain you and show you analysis of someone's games, is to also give you a repertoire in a way and give you a way of playing while also promoting my Schlechter French study which is over here: https://lichess.org/study/B0VjjEXy'

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 This line is rarely seen at the top level. Carlsen tried it once in a blitz game in 2012. It may seem that White is a little bit unambitious but Onischuk has scored a few victories with it, so it is not without its venom. One of the main ideas is revealed after... **3...dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3** . White does not claim to be better but rather just wants to have a pleasant position with the ♗ eyeing b7 and

maintaining pressure on the h1-a8 ⇗ like the Catalan. But the problem is that the same ♗ has taken away the natural developing square of the g1-♘, and it has also wasted a tempo on its route to f3. Now unless Black wants to remain passive for the rest of the game, he has two plans here to challenge White's centre, either...e5 or ...c5. **5...Nbd7**

[The alternate plan that has been played more often is 5...c5 . It was also Grischuk's reply against Carlsen in their blitz game. It went 6.Ne2 cxd4 7.Qxd4 Nbd7 8.Nbc3 Bc5 9.Qf4 Qe7 10.0-0 Bd6! 11.Qh4 Ne5 12.Bg5 h6 13.Be4 0-0 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Qxf6 gxf6 16.Rad1 Be7= 0-1 Carlsen,M (2837)-Grischuk,A (2763)/Astana 2012/CBM 149 Extra (51). And Black, who had already equalised, went on to win the game after 51 moves.]

Wang Hao aims for the ...e5 plan. **6.Ne2 e5 7.Nbc3 Bd6 8.Be3** The position is equal.

[Black equalised comfortably after 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bxf6 *(9.Bh4 0-0 10.0-0 Re8 11.Qd3 exd4 12.Qxd4 Ne5 13.Bd5 Ng6 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Qxf6 gxf6 16.g3 c6 17.Bg2 Bc7 18.Rfe1 Ba5 19.Nd4 Bd7 20.Nb3 Bxc3 21.bxc3 Rad8 22.f4 Kg7 23.Kf2 Bf5* 1-0 (43) Onischuk,V (2601)-Stocek,J (2568) Mikhail Tal Mem Rapid 2017 (9.3)) 9...Qxf6 *(9...Nxf6!?)* 10.Ne4 Qg6 11.N2g3 -0.27/21 *(11.Nxd6+* 0.18/17 might be stronger. *Qxd6 12.Qd2)* 11...0-0 *(11...exd4!?)* 12.Bh5 Qh7 13.Nxd6 cxd6 14.dxe5 dxe5 15.0-0 Nf6 16.Be2 Be6= ½-½ Susak,Z (2196)-Brumen,D (2356)/Bol 2015]

[8.d5 0-0 9.Ng3 Bb4ä 0.14/17 0-1 Pardo Simon,D (2388)-Delgado Ramos,H (2488)/Barcelona 2011 *(⌓9...Ne8* -0.22/20 *)*]

8...0-0 9.d5N White, if he wanted to play this, had to do it before castling.

[Since 9.0-0 Re8 White must now prevent ...e5-e4. 10.d5? -2.23/20 *(10.Ng3=* -0.05/19 and White has nothing to worry. *)* 10...e4-+]

[9.Qd2 Qe8 10.Ng3 exd4 11.Qxd4 Bc5 12.Qd2 Ne5 13.Be2 Bb4 14.0-0 Bg4 15.Qd4 c5 16.Qf4 Ng6 17.Qc7 Bxc3 18.bxc3 Bxe2 19.Nxe2 Nd5 20.Qxc5 Nxe3 21.Qxe3 Qxe3 22.fxe3 Rfe8 23.Rf3 Ne5 0-1 (57) Alhadad,M (1840)-Ljukin,S (2362) Titled Tuesday intern op 23rd May Early blitz 2023 (2)]

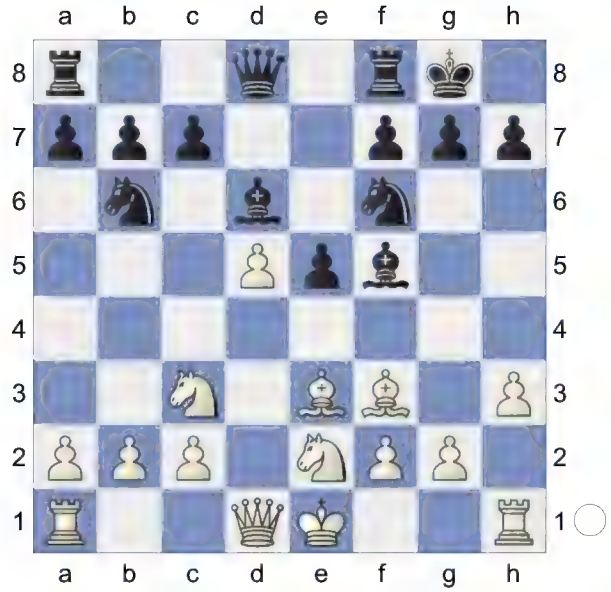
9...Nb6

[If 9...Re8 then. Threatens to win with ...e5-e4. 10.Ng3 will cover the e4-square.]

10.h3

[Onischuk was probably worried about parting with one of his ♗s for a ♘ after 10.0-0 Ng4 but this may be better than the game continuation.]

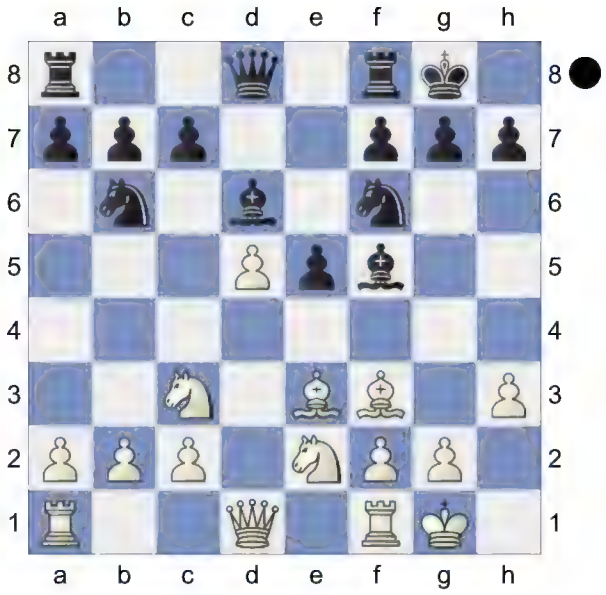
10...Bf5



Black's pieces already look well coordinated. The ♘s are targeting d5, one of them is ready to go to c4, the other one is supporting the ...e4 push. The light squared ♗ also supports the same pawn push while the ♗ on d6 can go to b4 to eliminate a defender of the d5-pawn. **11.g4** -0.92/21 It is hard to suggest anything for White. It is clear that the opening battle has been won by Black. Either it was move number eight where an improvement needed to be found, or else it was move number three!

[11.0-0? -1.28/20 11.Ne2-g3 -0.32

(Diagram)



e4!∓]

[11.Ng3 Bg6 12.0-0 Bb4∓]

[11.Ng3∓ -0.55/21 Bg6 12.0-0]

11...e4 12.Bg2

[12.gxf5? -1.44/21 12.Bf3-g2 -0.56 exf3 13.Nd4 Bb4∓ *(13...Nbxd5∓)*]

12...Bg6 13.Bg5

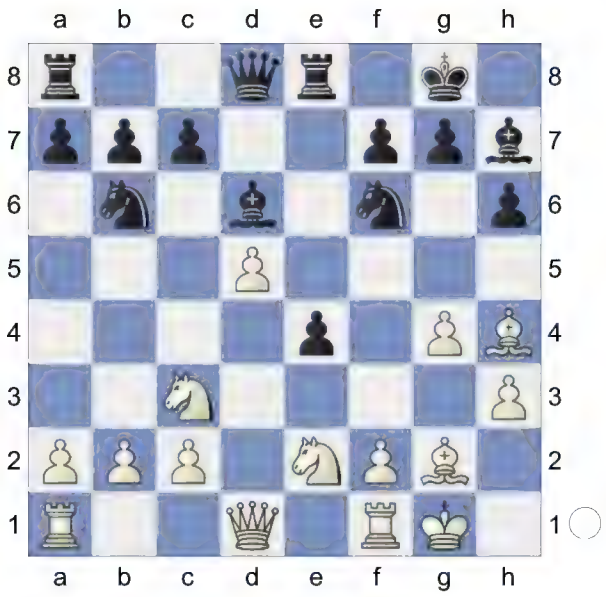
[13.0-0 loses a pawn to Nbxd5 due to the elementary tactic.]

13...Re8 14.0-0 h6↑ Black is on the roll.

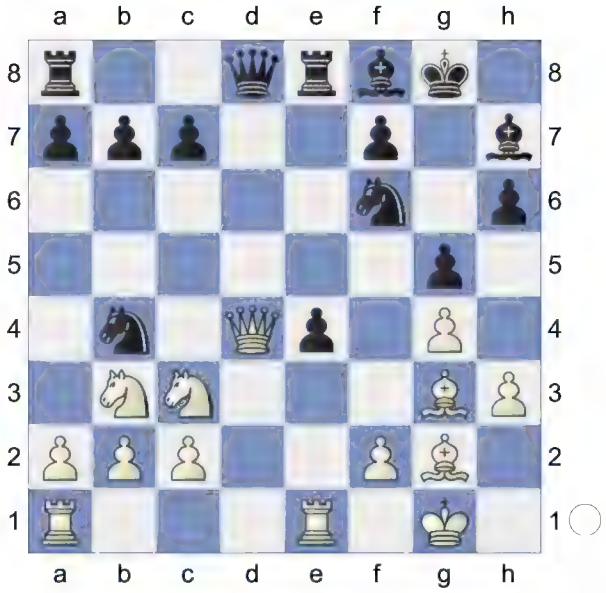
15.Bh4 Bh7

[Avoiding simplification after 15...Bc5 -0.41/20 15...Bd6-e5 -1.02 16.Nf4 Bh7 17.Nh5]

(Diagram)

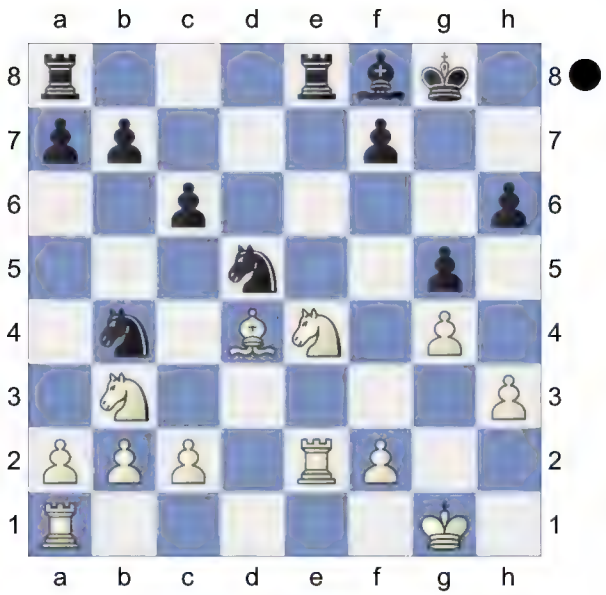


Prophylaxis. Black is more active.
16.Re1
[White could temporarily save his pawn with 16.Qd2 -1.26/18 16.a2-a4 -0.87 Qe7 -0.89/19 *(⌓16...c6 -1.26/18 17.Rad1 Nbxd5 18.Nxd5 cxd5)* 17.Rad1 but after something like Rad8 Black is getting ready to pressurise the same point again.]
16...Bc5 Getting ready to capture on d5 after ...g5 and at the same time preparing to play ...e3 if required.
17.Nd4
[17.a3 a5 does not change much.]
17...g5
[17...Nbxd5 18.Bxe4 *(18.Nxe4? Bxe4 19.Bxe4 Nf4-+)* 18...Nxc3 *(18...Bxe4 19.Nxe4 Be7 20.Nf5∓)* 19.Bxh7+ Kxh7 20.Qd3+ Nce4 21.Rxe4 Rxe4 22.Bxf6 Qxf6 23.Qxe4+ g6 24.c3=]
18.Bg3 Nbxd5 Black has won a pawn but the job is not done until either his e4-pawn is safe or something else is targetted in return. **19.Nb3 Bf8 20.Qd4 Nb4**
[20...c6!? -0.58/21 20...Nd5xc3 -1.07 21.Nxe4 Nxe4 22.Bxe4 Bxe4 23.Rxe4 Bg7 Repels Ra1-e1 24.Rxe8+ Qxe8 25.Qd3 Bxb2∓]

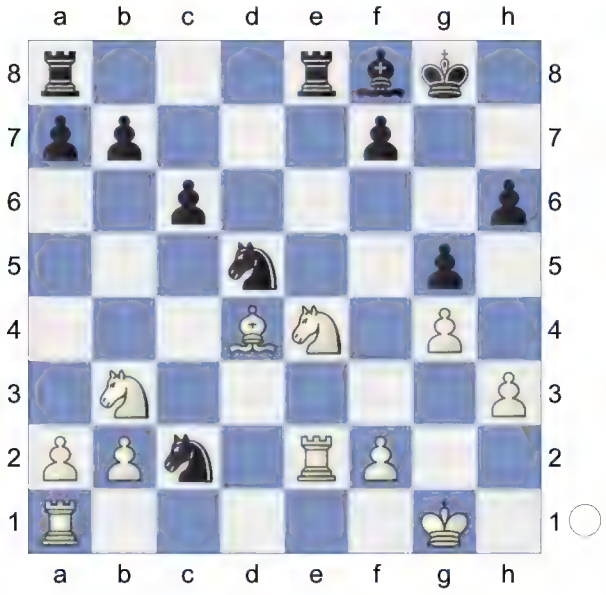


Another multi-purpose move, saving e4 and targetting c2. **21.Re2 c6 22.Be5**
[22.Rd1 -1.42/22 22.Qd4xd8 -0.84 Qxd4 23.Rxd4 e3∓]
[22.a3 Qxd4 *(22...Nbd5!? -0.74/21* 22...Qd8xd4 -1.20*)* 23.Nxd4 Nbd5 24.Nxd5 Nxd5 25.Rae1 Nf6∓]
22...Qxd4 23.Bxd4 Nfd5 ...Nd5-f4 is the strong threat. **24.Bxe4**
[24.a3 -1.35/22 24.Bg2xe4 -0.94 Nxc3 25.Bxc3 Nd5∓]
24...Bxe4 Remove Defender **25.Nxe4**
[25.Rxe4 Rxe4 26.Nxe4 Nxc2∓]

(Diagram)

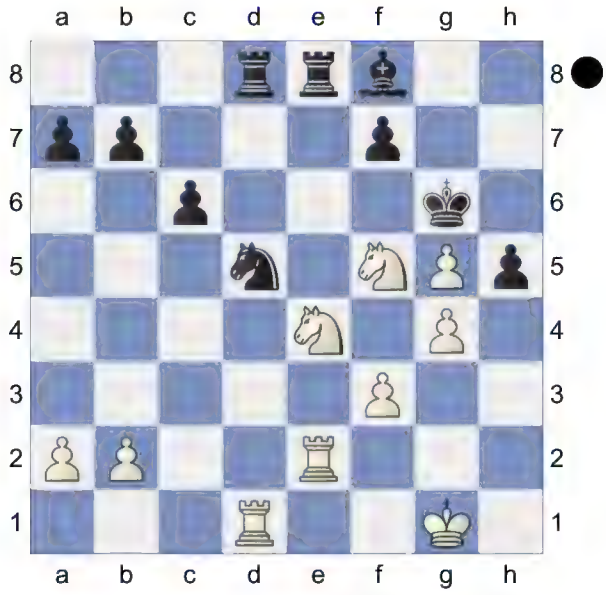


25...Nxc2

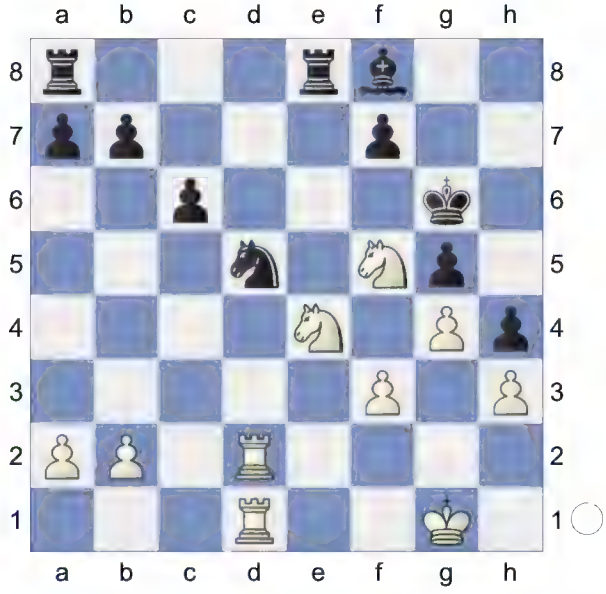


Deflection **26.Rd1**
[26.Rxc2 -1.20/20 26.Ra1-d1 -0.79 Rxe4∓]
26...Nxd4 27.Nxd4 Now White is ready to establish a ♘ on f5. Surprisingly, Wang Hao finds a very curious way to use it for his own benefit. **27...Kh7 28.Nf5 Kg6 29.f3 h5!** This is the point. Black pushes his pawn to h4 so that the white pawn on h3 will become a nice, juicy target for his ♘, whenever it proceeds from d5 to f4. **30.Red2**

[30.h4 Rad8!? -0.73/24 (⌓30...Nf6 -1.12/22 *31.Nfd6 hxg4 32.fxg4 Re5 33.hxg5 Nxe4* Deflection *34.Rxe4 Rxe4 35.Nxe4 Re8*) △31.hxg5 -1.21/22 (*31.Rde1* -2.19/22 31.Nf5-g3 -0.82 *Nf4∓;* Better is *31.Nfg3* -0.73/24 *gxh4 32.gxh5+ Kh7 33.Nf5*)

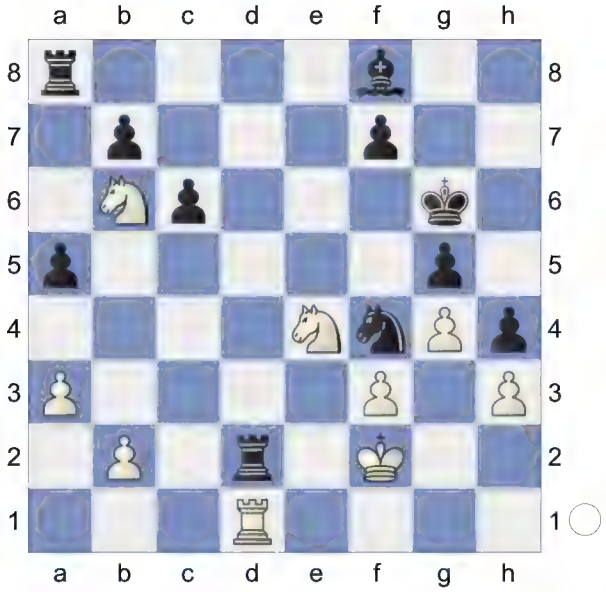


31...Nc3!∓]
30...h4



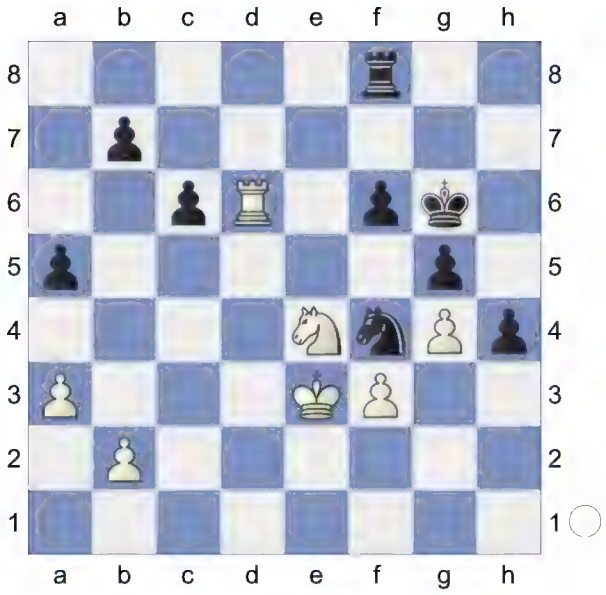
31.Kf2 Re5 32.a3 a5 33.Ne3 -1.90/22
[33.Rd3∓ -1.43/19]
33...Nf4-+ Time to reap the rewards of

foresight! **34.Nc4** -2.19/23
[⌓34.Rd7 -1.77/21]
34...Rd5
[34...Nxh3+ 35.Kf1 Ree8 36.Nb6=]
35.Nb6
[35.Rxd5 cxd5 36.Ne5+ Kg7-+]
35...Rxd2+
[35...Nxh3+ 36.Kf1 Rxd2 37.Rxd2=]

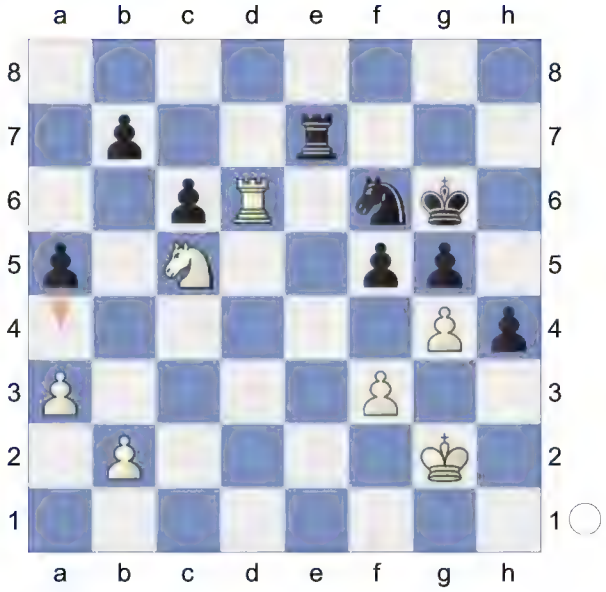


36.Rxd2 Re8 37.Nd7 -2.33/23
[37.Kf1 -1.82/21 was worth a try.]
37...Nxh3+ The rest is a formality, though with a tricky piece like the knight on the board, it does require some accuracy... **38.Ke3** -3.64/23
[⌓38.Kf1 -2.28/22]
38...Nf4 aiming for ...Bf8-g7. **39.Nxf8+ Rxf8** Endgame. KRN-KRN **40.Rd6+ f6**

(Diagram)

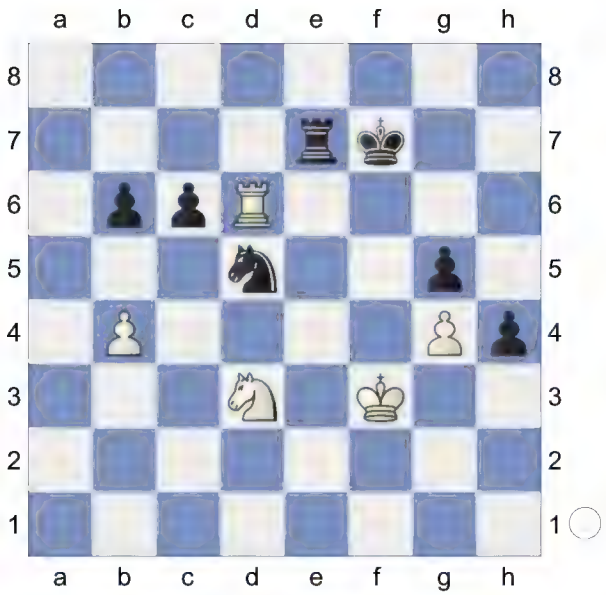


41.Kf2 Nd5 42.Rd7 -2.98/23
[42.b3 -2.12/22 might work better.]
42...f5 43.Rd6+ Nf6 44.Nc5 Rf7 Wards off Nc5-d7. Strongly threatening ...f5xg4. **45.Kg2 Re7**

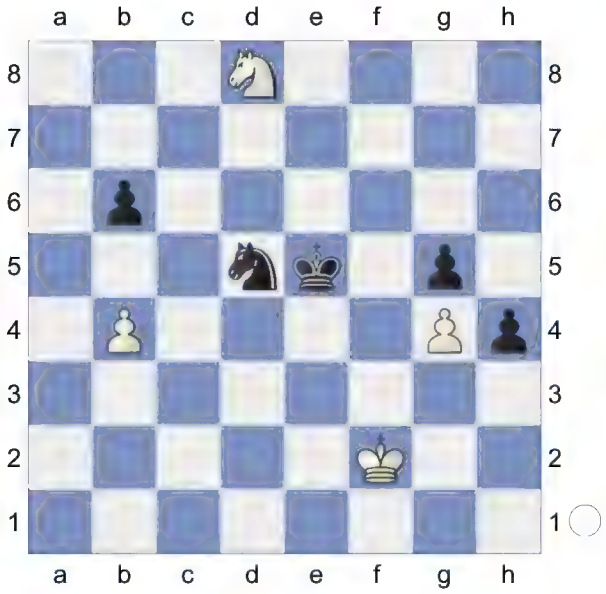


46.b4 -5.34/26
[⌓46.a4 -3.48/22]
46...axb4 47.axb4 fxg4 48.fxg4 Kf7 49.Kf3 b6 50.Nd3 Nd5!

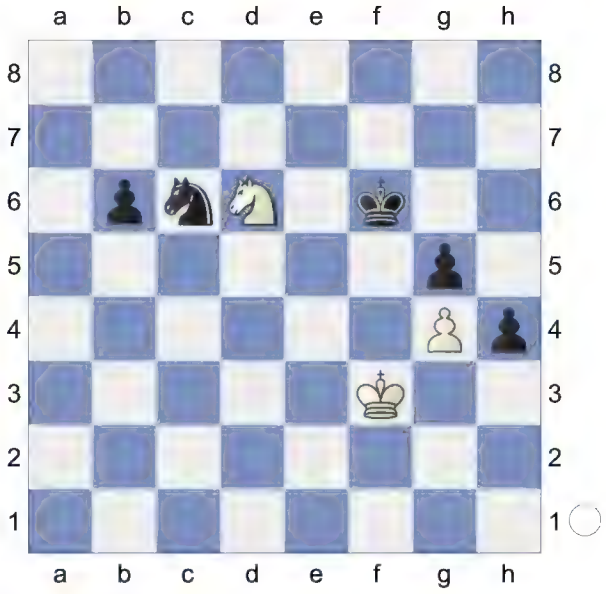
(Diagram)



51.Kf2
[51.Rxc6 -9.36/22 51.Kf3-f2 -4.32 Re3+-+]
51...Re6
[Worse is 51...Re3 52.Rxd5 Rg3 53.Rd6= *(53.Rxg5 Rxd3 54.Rh5 Rb3∓)*]
52.Rxc6 Rxc6 Black is clearly winning.
53.Ne5+ Ke6 54.Nxc6 Kd6 55.Nd8 Ke5
[55...Nxb4 -3.44/25 55...Kd6-e5 -8.03 56.Nf7+ Kd5 57.Nxg5∓]



The simplest. **56.Kf3 Nxb4 57.Nf7+ Kf6 58.Nd6 Nc6**

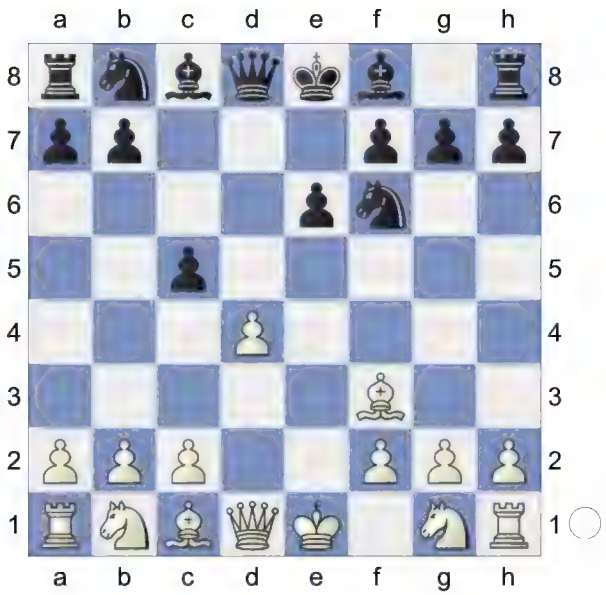


White did not feel at home in the position after the opening.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
0-1

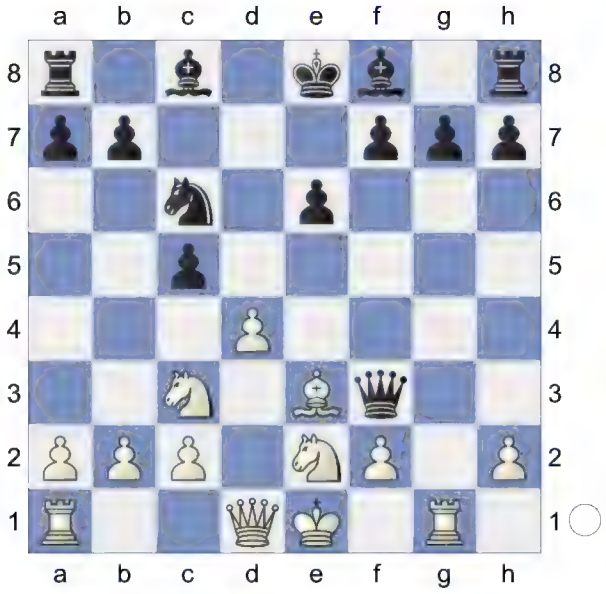
45 **C01**
□ **Kovalev,Vladislav** **2641**
■ **Tabatabaei,M** **2577**
Aeroflot Open A 2018 (8.1) 27.02.2018
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

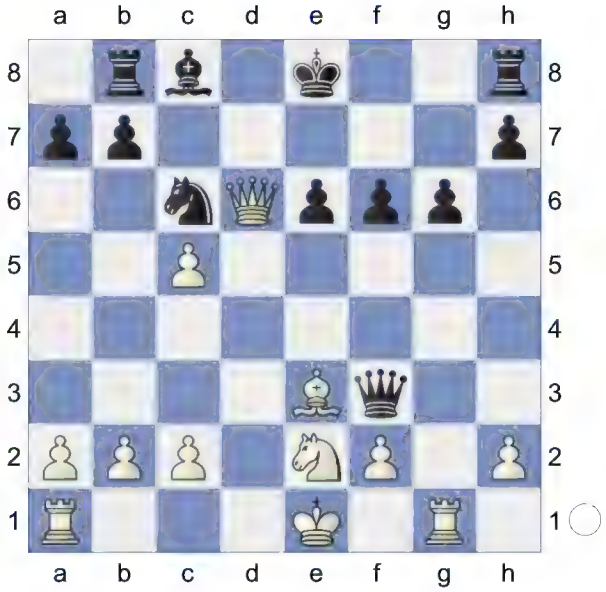
(Diagram)



6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 Nd5 0.44/19
[7...cxd4= 0.00/17 might be stronger. 8.Nxd4 Ne5]
8.Bxd5± Qxd5 White is slightly better.
9.Nbc3! Qxg2 10.Rg1 Qf3 0.80/21
[10...Qxh2± 0.39/21 11.Bf4 Qh4]

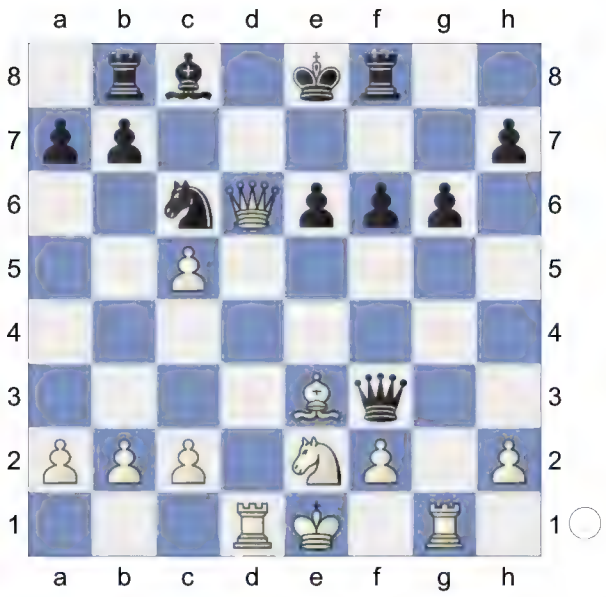


11.Nb5!± Nb5-c7+ would now be deadly.
11...Rb8 12.dxc5 Nb5-c7+ would kill now. **12...f6N**
[12...Bd7 13.Nc7+ Kd8 14.Nb5 Ne5 15.Qd4 Qd5 16.0-0-0 Qxd4 17.Bxd4 Nf3 18.Bxg7 Nxg1 19.Bxh8 Nxe2+ 20.Kb1 Bxc5 21.Bf6+ Kc8 22.Nd6+ Bxd6 23.Rxd6 Nf4 24.Rd4 Ng6 25.h4 h5 26.Rc4+ Bc6 27.Rc5 0-1 (54) Kramnik,V (2744)-Caruana,F (2800) Altibox Norway Chess 2017-Blitz (3)]
13.Nd6+ Bxd6 14.Qxd6 g6 1.41/20
[⌓14...Rg8 0.94/22]



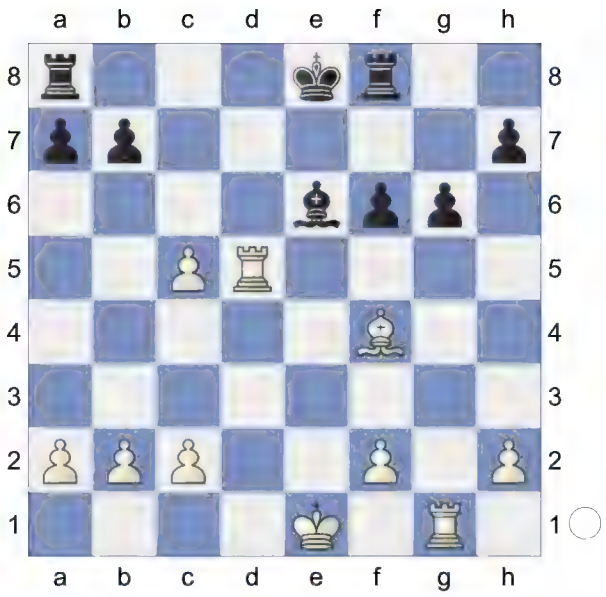
Black is weak on the dark squares
15.Rd1! Threatens to win with b2-b4!
15...Rf8 1.81/22
[15...e5± 1.32/23]

(Diagram)

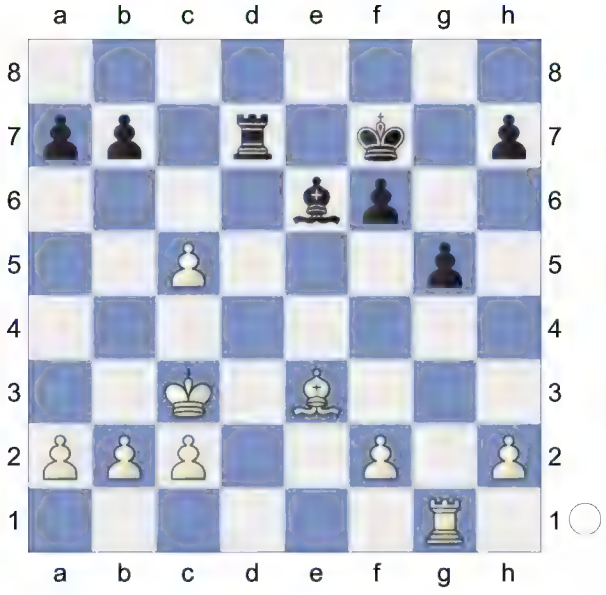


16.Nd4 1.21/23
[16.b4+- 1.81/22 a6 17.Nd4]
16...Qd5 17.Qxd5
[17.Nxc6 simplifies Qxd6 18.Rxd6 bxc6 19.b3]
17...exd5 18.Bf4 Nxd4 19.Rxd4
[19.Bxb8 Nf3+ 20.Ke2 Nxg1+ 21.Rxg1 Kf7∓]
19...Ra8 20.Rxd5 0.89/20 White is much more active. The black rooks are passive.
[⌓20.Bd6 1.34/22 Rf7 21.Kd2 *(21.Rxd5 Be6±)*]
20...Be6

(Diagram)

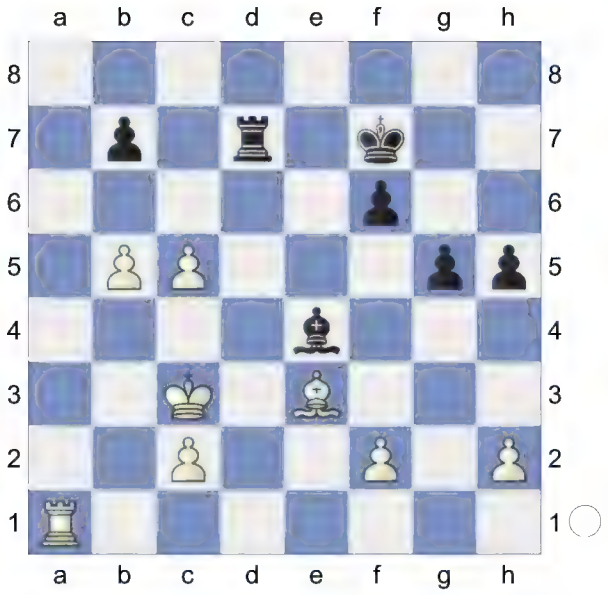


21.Rd6 Kf7 22.Kd2 g5 23.Be3 Rfd8 24.Rxd8 Rxd8+ Endgame. KRB-KRB
25.Kc3 Rd7 1.22/21
[Black should try 25...h5 0.85/20]



26.a4 h5 27.b4 a6 1.70/23
[27...g4± 1.18/19 28.b5 f5]
28.b5+- axb5 29.axb5 Bf5 30.Ra1 Be4

(Diagram)



31.Ra4 Bf3 32.Ra8 1.36/19
[32.c6+- 1.86/22 bxc6 33.b6]
32...Rd1 1.94/23
[32...Kg6± 1.36/19 might work better. 33.Rc8 Bd5]
33.Rc8 Ke6 2.11/22
[33...h4 1.63/20 keeps fighting. 34.c6 bxc6]
34.Bd4 Hoping for Rc8-f8. **34...Rc1**
35.Kb2 Rh1 3.25/23
[⌓35...Rd1 2.17/22 36.Kc3 *(36.Bxf6 Kxf6 37.Rf8+* Skewer *Ke5±)* 36...Rb1]

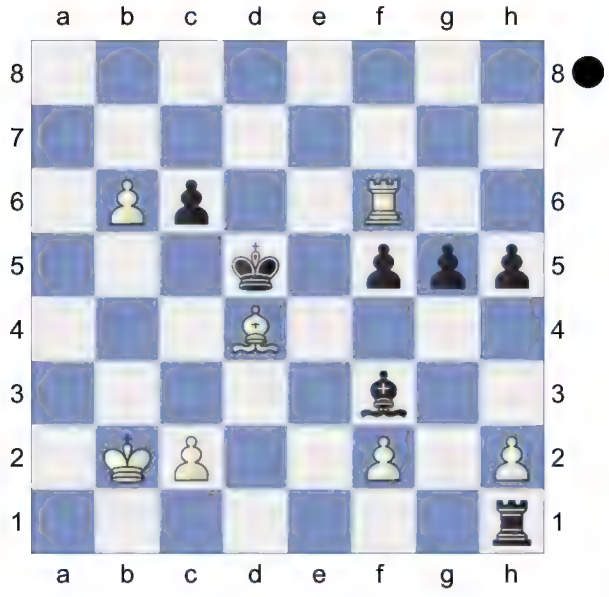
(Diagram)

36.Rf8 f5 37.Rf6+ White is clearly winning. **37...Kd5** 8.20/22
[⌓37...Kd7 4.39/22 38.Rxf5 g4 39.Rxh5 Rd1 40.Rh7+ Kc8]

38.c6! bxc6

(Diagram)

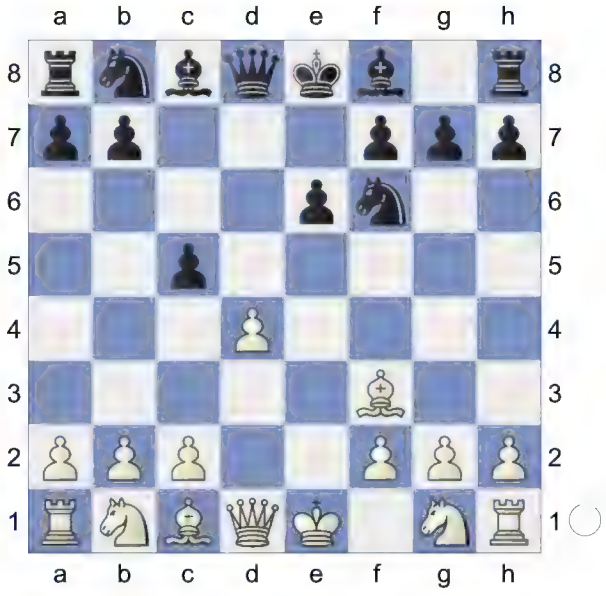
39.b6!



Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.29 (precise)
1-0

46 **C01**
□ **Onischuk,V** **2630**
■ **Cornette,Matthieu** **2548**
6. Purtichju Open 2019 (4.3) 01.07.2019
[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

We're in 2019 and the only game that Vladimir Onischuk played in 2019 where he played this opening. He hasn't played this line in 2 years at it probably was a bit of a surprise to Cornette that Onischuk is playing this line again.
C01: French: Exchange Variation
Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**



6.Ne2 Be7!? This is a very interesting line, a very uncommon line I would say as well. I haven't covered this one in my study so let's do a quick review of it throught this game, shall we? Reason I didn't cover it in my study is because

there I wanted to provide you with stuff most people play, nobody plays this line as it's too passive and doesn't feel French like. **7.Nbc3 0-0**

[7...cxd4?! Taking now makes no sense as after 8.Nxd4 e5? this isn't possible due to 9.Nf5! Qxd1+ 10.Kxd1! and white cannot take the knight and is already under extreme pressure.]

8.d5 This is a possible move. Wards off Nb8-c6

[8.Be3 My personal favourite is this, the point being that after cxd4 9.Nxd4= you get the position that looks like the main line except that there isn't a knight on e5 so you're actually much better developed then black.]

8...exd5 The position is equal. **9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6**

11.Qxd8 Rxd8

[Don't play 11...Bxd8 12.Bd2=]

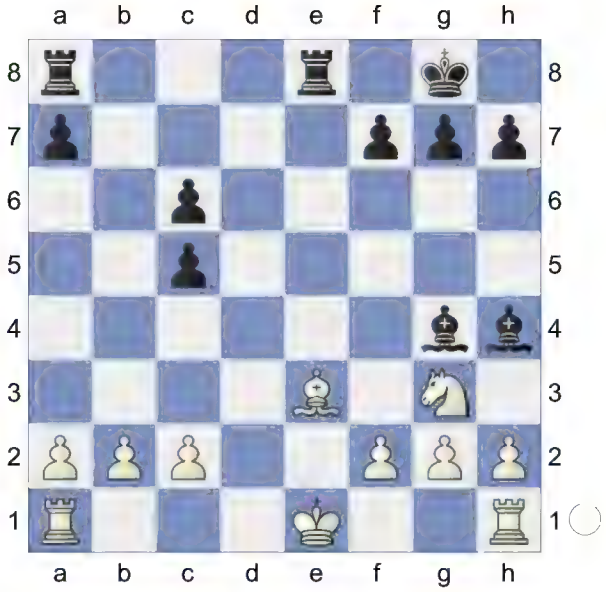
12.Bxc6 You want to damage black's pawns and create inbalance in the position. Knight and bishop vs. the bishop pair. **12...bxc6 13.Bd2! Bh4!** The idea behind this crazy looking move is Re8 and Ba6 trying to win the knight. Threatens to win with ...Rd8-e8.

[13...Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 f5 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 Bc4 20.b3 Ba6 21.Kd1 Bf2 22.Ne2 Re8 23.c4 Bc8 24.Rd6 f4 25.Rf1 Be3 26.Nxf4 Bg4+ 27.Kc2 Bf5+ 28.Nd3 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4)]

14.Ng3! All that you saw is litteraly how you should play this line. **14...Re8+N**

[14...Bg4 15.f3 Re8+ 16.Kf2 Be6 3) Unregelmäßig-3 | Unregelmäßig 3. Ld3 | We 17.Rhe1 f5 18.Kg1 Bf6 23) Schlechter Variation 3.Bd-7.Nbc3 #8]

15.Be3 Bg4



16.Kd2? -0.72/19 I wanna know what was this. This is disrespect torwards Matthieu on a next level. Like, this move doesn't make any sense whatsoever and Kc1 also makes no sense despite being the best and the only move not to die immediately after this as you're disconnecting the rooks from each other and you're gonna have a hard time connecting them.

[16.0-0 I mean, just castle. Bf6 17.c3 Reb8 18.h3 Be6 19.b3 -0.33/22 Here black's only try to break through the queen side is *(19.Ne4=* 0.17/21 *)* 19...c4∓ 20.Ne4 Be5 but after 21.Nc5= white is fine.]

[16.0-0= -0.22/22 remains equal.]

16...Rad8+∓ 17.Kc1 White is weak on the light squares **17...c4 18.a4! a6?** Here Matthieu had to play a5.

[18...a5! You have to stop this pawn here, otherwise it becomes a problem. 19.Bd2 Bxg3 Here you take the knight to get the rook to e2. 20.hxg3

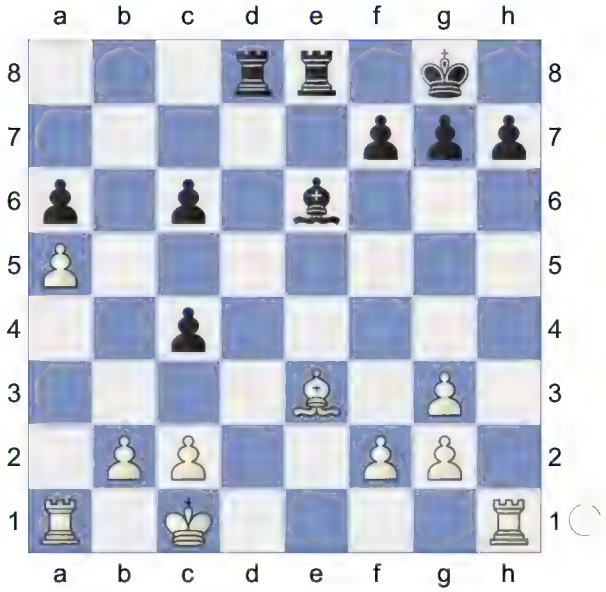
Re2! 21.Bxa5! Rd5 22.Bc3! Rxf2∓ And here, while white does have a past pawn, white will have to deal with 3 on 0 on the king side and that past pawn is pretty stoppable.]

19.a5 Bxg3?! 0.25/22 This makes no sense now as neither of the rooks can get to the 2nd rank. No reason to give up the bishop pair here. Now all of the advantage Matthieu had is definetely gone.

[19...Re5 This would've been a better move, putting pressure on the a pawn and after 20.Ra4 Bf6∓ there might be some ideas on the white king.]

[⌓19...Rd5 -0.30/22]

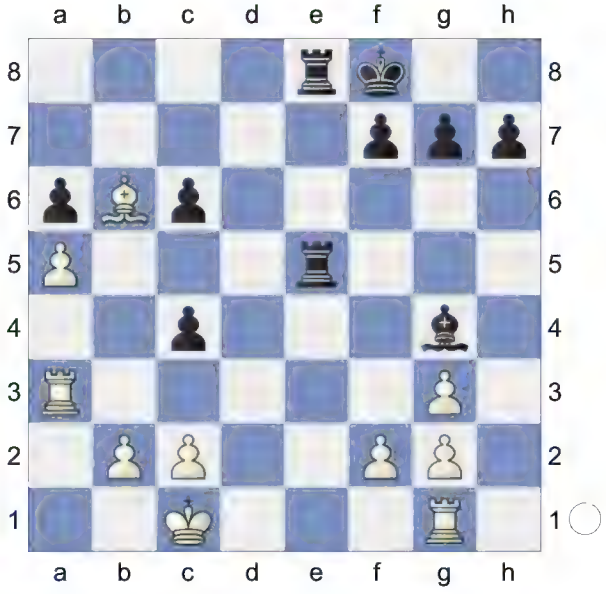
20.hxg3= Be6



21.Bb6 This pawn is now forever protected and black cannot touch it as his bishop is the opposite colour. **21...Rd5 22.Re1 Kf8 23.Ra3 Bg4 24.Rh1 Rh5** 0.70/24

[Black should play 24...Re2= 0.16/21]

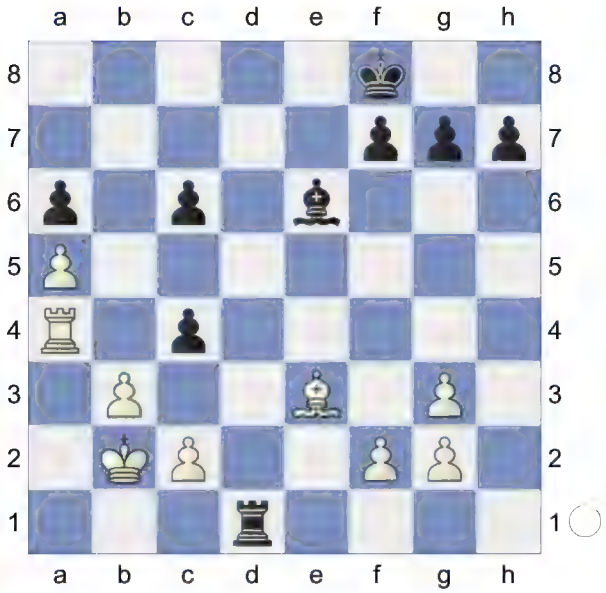
25.Rg1 Rhe5



26.Be3 0.01/20

[26.f3± 0.61/23 Be6 27.Re3 Rxe3 28.Bxe3]

26...Rd5 0.49/20
[26...f6= 0.01/20 is more appropriate.]
27.Ra4 Red8? 1.19/24 Here, in this endgame which should be a dead draw as it's the opposite colour bishops endgame, Matthieu managed to make a mistake.
[27...Be6= This would've been fine, you just need to make sure that b3 isn't a breakout for white.]
[27...Be6= 0.30/21]
28.b3!± Now white can break out and can actually make some progress since his king can breathe.
[28.Rxc4? leads to mate. Rd1+ 29.Rxd1 Rxd1#]
28...Rd1+ 29.Rxd1 Rxd1+ Endgame. KRB-KRB **30.Kb2 Be6**

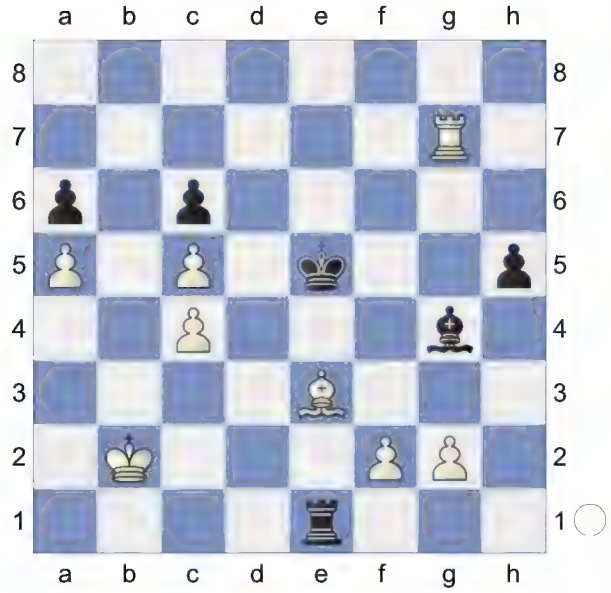


A bit too late, now bxc4 is possible.
31.bxc4 Ke7 32.Rb4 Kd6?? 2.16/22 And this blunder is just a gg after c5+ and Rb6.
[32...h5 Best black can do is try to secure the pawns on the king side and after 33.Bg5+ Kd6 34.Rb8± white can try to sneak from the back and can protect his pawns on the king side with the bishop until he finally gets the king away from c6 with Bf4+ and plays Rb6 to take the pawns on c6 and a6.]
[32...h5± 1.28/22 33.c5 Bc8]
33.c5++- Kd5 34.Rb6 Bc8 35.Rb8 Bg4

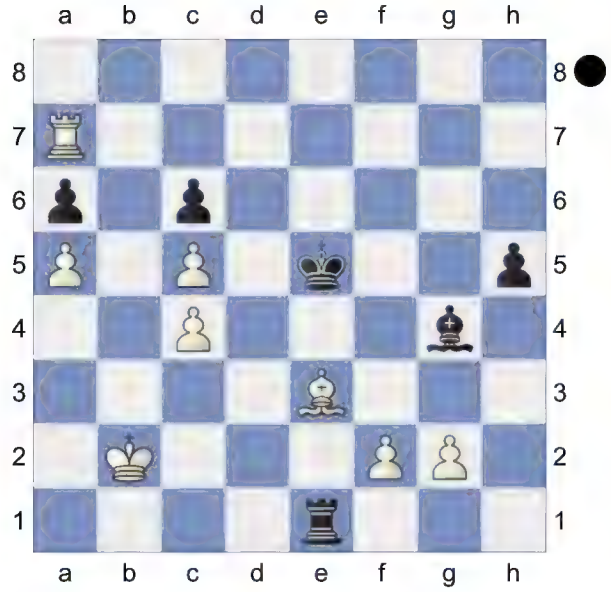
36.Rb7 Bh5

37.g4! Deflection **37...Bxg4 38.Rxf7 Re1** 4.09/24
[38...g5 2.80/21 might work better. 39.Rxh7 *(39.Bxg5 h5+-)* 39...Kc4 40.Bxg5 Kxc5 41.Be3+ Kb5]

39.c4+! Nice sacrifice. **39...Ke5**
[39...Kxc4 ...Re1-e2+ would now be deadly. 40.Rf4++-]
40.Rxg7 h5



41.Ra7



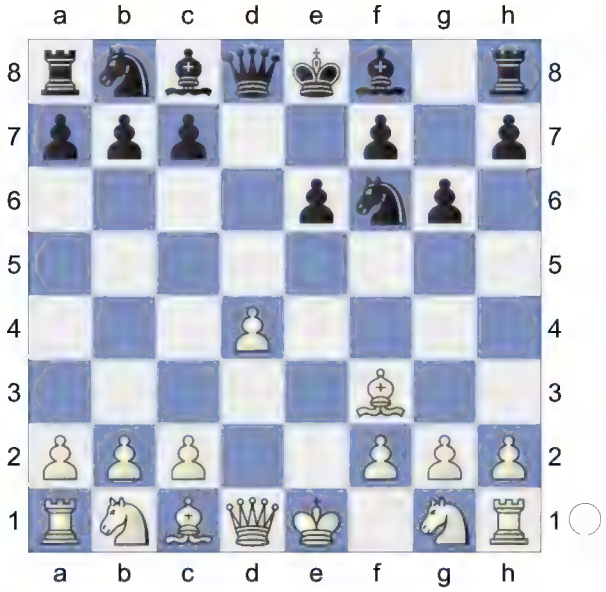
And here black resigned as he simply cannot defend a6 and isn't in the well known box to get to the pawn before it promotes. Yes, it's opposite colours bishops, but black's bishop cannot stop anything while rook is on the board. So not only did Onischuk disrespect a fairly strong opponent, he just destroyed him in the end game which is something he does in the Schlechter French often.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.26 (precise)
1-0

47 **C01**
□ **Pap,Gyula** **2481**
■ **Jobava,Baadur** **2600**
Titled Tue 10th May Late blitz (6) 10.5.22
[John Watson]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 g6N**
[5...c5 6.Ne2
A) 6...Be7 7.Nbc3 *(7.Be3 0-0 8.dxc5 Qc7 9.0-0 Rd8 10.Qc1 Bxc5 11.Nbc3 Na6 12.a3 Bd7 13.Ng3 Bd6 14.Rd1 Be5 15.Bd4 Nc5 16.Qe3 Bxd4 17.Rxd4 Rac8 18.Rad1 b6 19.h3 Be8 20.Qd2 Rxd4 21.Qxd4 h6* ½-½ (83) Nguyen,M (2052)-Esipenko,A (2695) Titled Tuesday intern op 04th Feb Early blitz 2025 (3)*; 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nbc3 Qa5 9.Qe1 Kh8 10.Be3 Nc6 11.g3 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Bd7 14.Nd5 Qxe1 15.Rfxe1 Nxd5 16.Bxd5 Bb4 17.Bxb7 Rab8 18.Bf3 Bxe1 19.Rxe1 Rfc8 20.Rc1 Bc6 21.Bxc6 Rxc6* ½-½ (51) Gusev,D (1863)-Vardanyan,A (1735) Wch

U10 Montesilvano 2024 (10)) 7...0-0 8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 f5 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 Bc4 20.b3 Ba6 21.Kd1 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4);

B) 6...Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5 9.Nc3 Bb4 10.Ndb5 0-0 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Nc7 Rb8 13.Bxa7 Nxf3+ 14.gxf3 Bd7 15.Bxb8 Rxb8 16.a4 40) 1.e4 e6 French: 3...dxe4-French: 3...dxe4 with 6...Nc6]



A fresh approach which has only been tried a couple of times. **6.Ne2 Bg7 7.0-0 0-0 8.a4** A little slow. Two more natural moves:. White is slightly better.

[a) 8.c4 Nc6? 0.43/17 *(8...Nbd7! 9.Nbc3 e5= Repels Bc1-f4; 8...Nbd7=* 0.03/20) 9.Nbc3± Qe7 *(9...Nd7!?)* 10.Re1± Rd8 11.Bf4 Dodges Nc6-e5 e5?? 0.87/21 *(11...a5±* 0.41/19 deserves consideration.*)* 12.Bg5!± exd4 1.26/23 *(⌓12...Qd6* 0.82/17) 13.Nd5± Qe5? 4.60/20 *(13...Qd6 14.c5!; 13...Qd6±* 1.34/21 is tougher.*)* 14.Bxf6!+- Bxf6 15.Ng3 1-0 Della Morte,P (2287) -Garcia Palermo,C (2392) Rio Grande 2018]

[b) 8.Nbc3 has numerous possible answers. A sample of ideas: Nc6!? *(8...Nbd7; 8...c6)* 9.Bxc6!? *(9.Bf4 Nd5 10.Nxd5 exd5 11.Qd2 Ne7 12.c3 c6 13.Rfe1 Nf5)* 9...bxc6 10.Re1 a5 *(10...c5 11.dxc5 Qe7)* 11.Na4 Nd7 12.b3 c5 13.Ba3 cxd4! 14.Nxd4 *(14.Nxd4!? Re8 15.Qg4=)* 14...Re8 15.Qf3 Against Bc8-b7 Bxd4 16.Rad1! Bb7! 17.Qxb7 Qf6=]

8...Na6!? Better are

[8...Nbd7 9.a5 e5 And now ...e5-e4 would win. 10.Ng3 exd4= and]

[8...Qe7 9.Nd2 Rd8 10.Re1 c5=]

9.a5

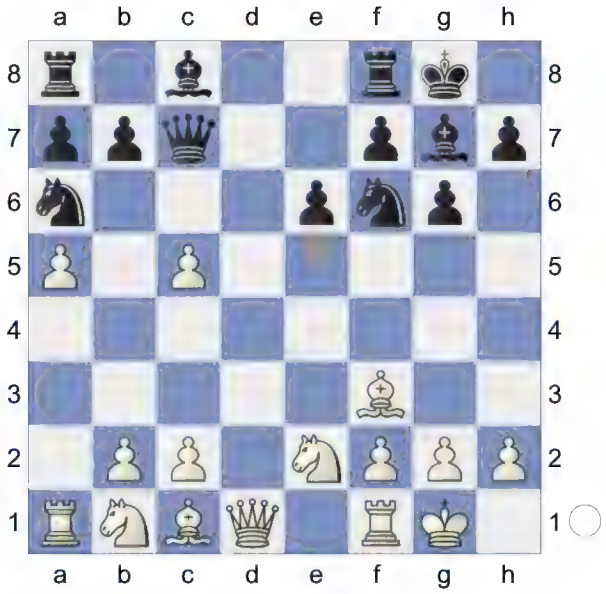
[9.Bf4±]

9...c5?!

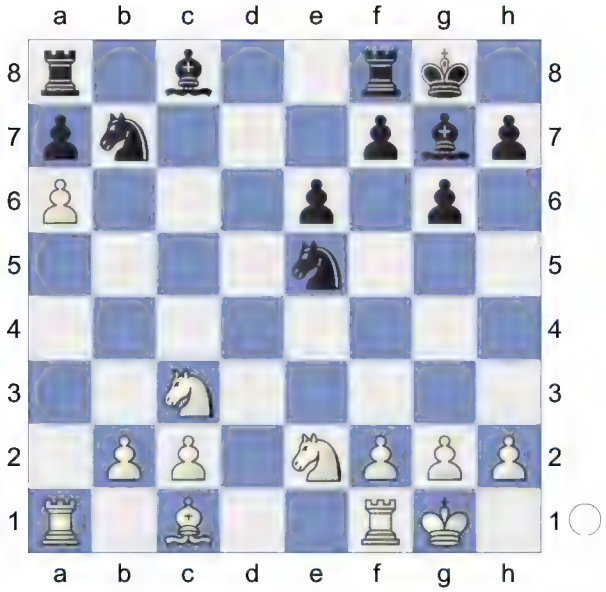
[9...Qe7 10.Re1 c5]

10.dxc5! Qc7?

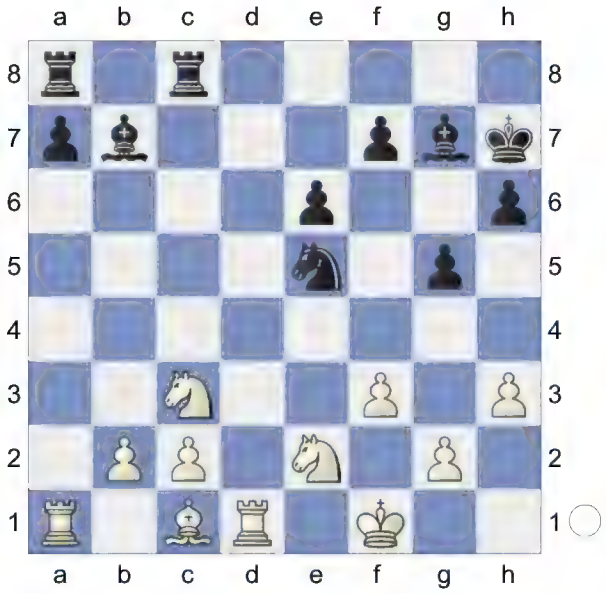
[10...Nd7±]



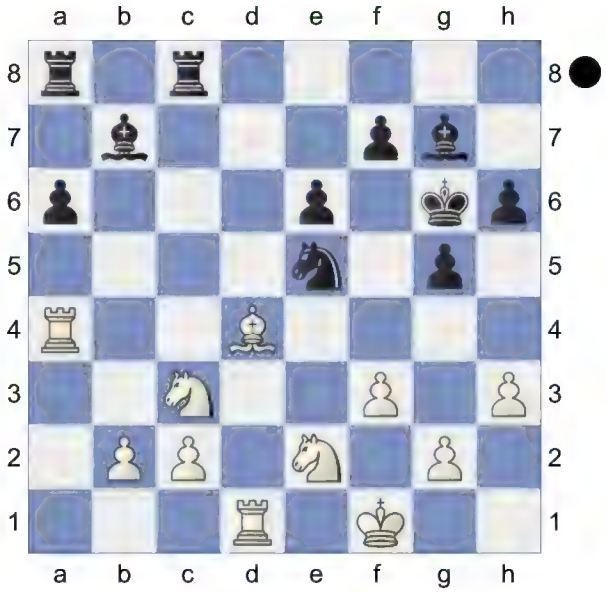
11.Qd6! Qxc5 12.Qxc5 Nxc5 13.Nbc3
[13.Nec3! a6 *(13...Nfd7 14.Be3±)* 14.Bf4±]
13...Nfd7? 1.06/22
[13...e5±]
[13...e5± 0.64/21]
14.a6? -0.33/22 **Ne5!∓**
[14...Nxa6? too greedy. 15.Rxa6 Ne5 16.Ra3+-]
15.Bxb7 Repels **15...Nxb7**



16.axb7 Bxb7 With a powerful bishop pair. **17.Rd1 Rfc8 18.f3 h6 19.Kf1 g5 20.h3 Kh7**

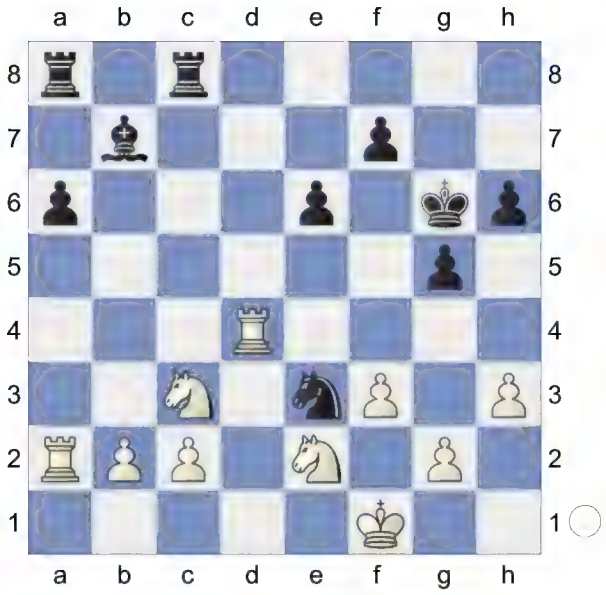


21.Ra4
[21.Be3]
21...Kg6 22.Be3 -1.08/21
[22.f4∓ -0.65/19 is superior. gxf4 23.Bxf4]
22...a6 -0.72/20
[22...a5!∓]
[⌓22...Nc4 -1.08/21 23.Bc1 a5]
23.Bd4
[23.Ra2 Nc6 *(23...Nc4* -0.33/19 23...a6-a5 -0.79 *24.Bf2)* 24.Rd7 Rab8∓]

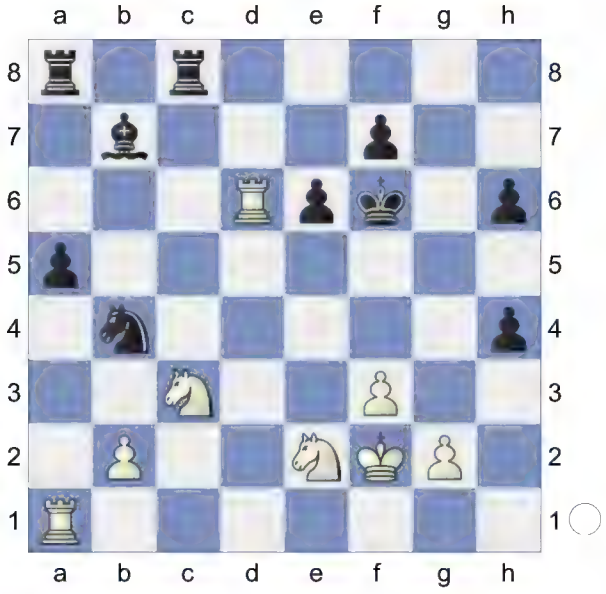


23...Nc4! 24.Ra2 Bxd4 25.Rxd4 Ne3+

(Diagram)



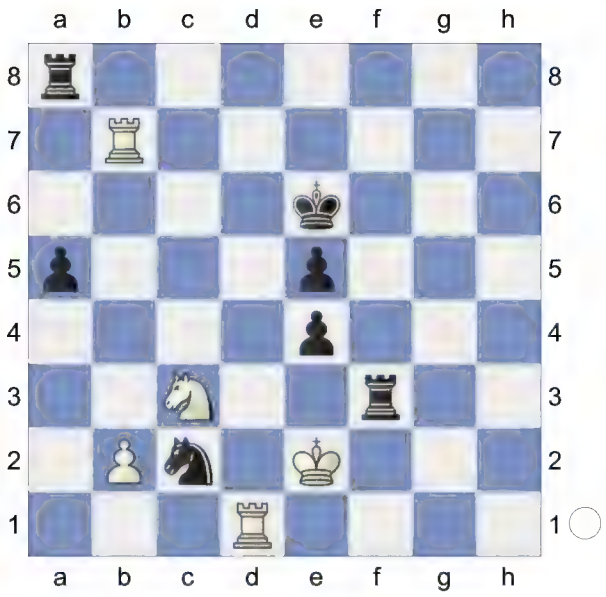
26.Kf2 Nxc2 With an extra pawn and better position. **27.Rd6 Nb4 28.Ra4 a5 29.h4 gxh4 30.Ra1 Kf6**



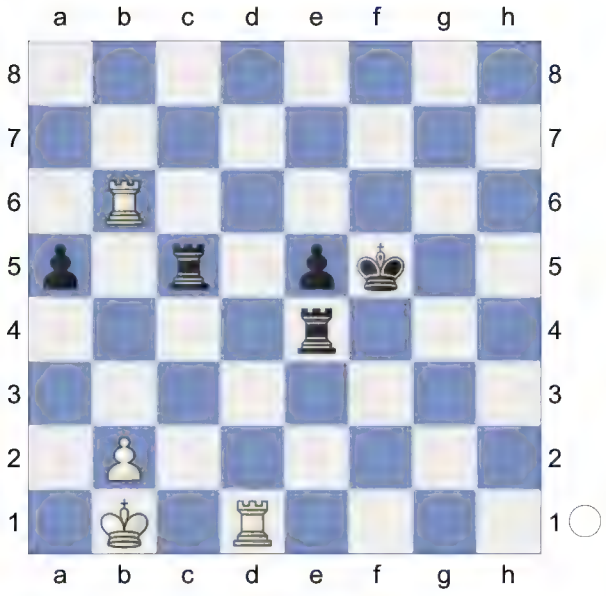
31.Rh1 Ke7 32.Rd4 -2.06/24
[32.Rb6∓ -1.18/22 Bc6 33.Nd4]
32...e5 -0.87/23
[32...Ba6! aiming for ...Nb4-d3+. 33.Rdxh4 Nd3+ 34.Kg3 Nxb2-+]
[32...Ba6-+ -2.06/24 and Black stays clearly on top. ...Nb4-d3+ is the strong threat. 33.b3 Rcb8 34.Rdxh4 Nd3+ Discovered Attack 35.Kg1 Rxb3]
33.Rdd1 -1.24/20
[33.Rdxh4∓]
[⌓33.Rdxh4 -0.87/23 Rc6 34.Rh5]
33...Rc4∓ 34.g3 -2.60/22
[34.b3∓ -1.15/22 was worth a try. Rc5 35.Rxh4]
34...hxg3+ Deflection **35.Nxg3 Rf4**

Inhibits Ng3-f5+. **36.Nge4 f5** -1.10/21
[36...Ra6-+ -1.93/20 Threatens to win with ...f7-f5. 37.Ne2 Rf5 *(37...Bxe4 38.Nxf4 Bc2 39.Nd5+ Kf8 40.Nxb4±)*]
37.Rxh6 Threatening mate with Rh6-h7+. **37...fxe4 38.Rh7+ Ke6**
[Less strong is 38...Rf7 39.Rxf7+ Kxf7 40.Rd7+ Ke6 41.Rxb7∓]
39.Rxb7 Rxf3+?? -1.10/22
[39...exf3!]
[39...exf3-+ -2.04/23 ...Ra8-g8 would now be deadly. 40.Rb6+ Kf5]
40.Ke2 Nc2

(Diagram)

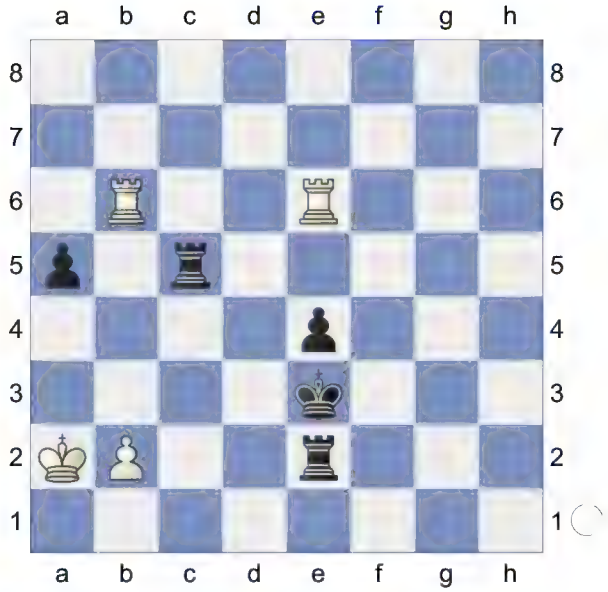


Strongly threatening ...Nc2-d4+. **41.Nxe4 Re3+ 42.Kd2 Rxe4 43.Kxc2** Endgame. KRR-KRR **43...Rc8+ 44.Kb1 Rc5 45.Rb6+ Kf5**

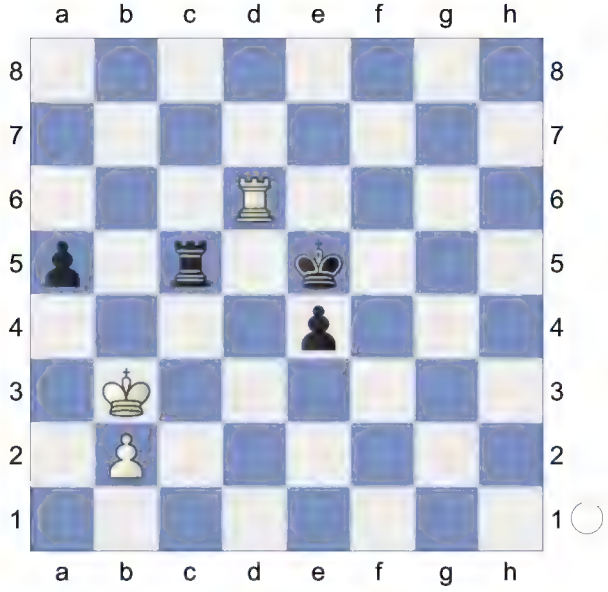


46.Rdd6? -1.67/20
[46.Rf1+ Rf4 47.Re1 should draw easily.]
[White should play 46.Rf1+∓ -0.70/22 Rf4 47.Rg1]
46...Re2 -1.06/20
[46...Re1+-+ -1.67/20 47.Ka2 e4]
47.Rf6+ Ke4 Black has more active pieces. **48.Ka2 Kd4 49.Rfd6+ Ke3**

50.Re6? -2.23/22
[50.Rb3+∓ -1.37/20 Ke4 51.Rh6]
50...e4-+

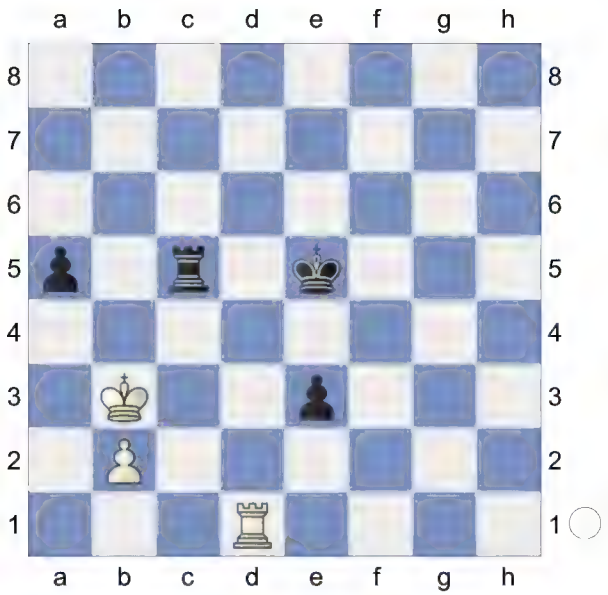


51.Ka3 Rd2 52.Rb3+? -5.27/22
[52.Re8 -1.70/20]
52...Rd3 Black is clearly winning. **53.Ka4 Rxb3 54.Kxb3 Kd4 55.Rd6+ Ke5**



56.Rd1 e3 -5.77/26
[⌓56...Kf4 -14.29/27 57.Rf1+ Kg3]

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.17 (very precise)
0-1

48 **C01**
□ **Onischuk,V** **2601**
■ **Stocek,J** **2568**
Mikhail Tal Mem Rapid (9.3) 05.03.2017
[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

Now this game is a bit different, it's not flashy like the rest but I think it's a solid way of showing the line 5...Nbd7 in the Main Line and covering it. In the end, the point of the study, except to entertain you and show you analysis of someone's games, is to also give you a repertoire in a way and give you a way of playing while also promoting my Schlechter French study which is over here: https://lichess.org/study/B0VjjEXy
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Nbd7!?

(Diagram)

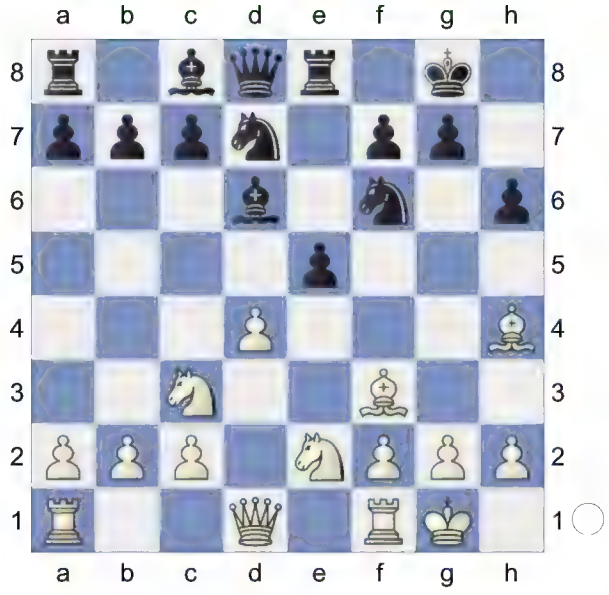
This move is seen, but not very often as it feels too passive. It's a move though, the point is that now you can play e5 and get rid of the French Bishop which feels nice. Onischuk though just proves black wrong in this game and gets him of the board with an L on his forehead.
6.Nc3 e5?! It's too early to play this though.
[6...Bb4 This would've been better. After 7.Nge2 0-0 8.0-0 Re8 9.Be3 now e5 would've made some sense as your rook is in the center of the board and there is a reason now to open it. e5=]
7.Nge2?! Allthough this isn't the best move either. I understand why Onischuk didn't take, it doesn't feel good, but it's a much better move.
[7.dxe5 Qe7 You don't want to take as that trades the queens and isn't that good. 8.Be3 This way there is no problems after the queen takes the pawn. What would be more interesting is seeing Nxe5 9.Qd4 Neg4 trying to get the dark squared bishop while also not speeding up white's development. 10.Bxg4 *(10.0-0-0!?*

Nxe3 11.Re1+- Pin) 10...Nxg4 11.Nd5! Nxe3! White cannot take the queen as there is Nc7+ fork. 12.fxe3 Qd6! 13.0-0-0 Be6⩲ White is a bit better here but black doesn't have the worst position and e3 pawn is a potential target in the future.]

7...Bd6 Just for you to understand, black taking on d4 means he is activating white's bad knight and it's a no no for black. **8.Bg5** The position is equal.

8...h6 9.Bh4 0-0 10.0-0 Re8

[10...g5 This move is absolutely possible. 11.Bg3 Re8 12.Ne4 Nxe4 13.Bxe4 exd4 14.Bf5 Nf6 *(14...Bxg3* You don't want to take as they can take with the knight, no reason to do this right now. *15.Nxg3=)* 15.Nxd4= And the position is equal.]



11.Qd3

[11.Ne4 g5 12.Nxd6 cxd6 13.Bg3 e4 6) Odds and Ends-The Schlechter Variation The Aggressive French 2024]

11...exd4 Why is this good now though? Well, because black has a rook on e8 and you want the open file for the rook. Also, black wants to get Ne5 on the board so that he can at some point develope his bishop.

[11...g5 Let's also discuss this move now. It's not as good anymore, but it's still great. 12.Bg3 exd4 13.Qxd4 this isn't so pleasant, but black has Ne5∓ and there are no problems whatsoever.]

12.Qxd4

[12.Nxd4 -0.70/21 12.Qd3xd4 -0.34 If this, then Ne5 is still strong. But there is another move here which is much more interesting. Bxh2+! 13.Kxh2 Ne5 And here this knight is hanging. Queen will be overloaded if it drops back. 14.Nc6! This saves the game, giving the piece back attacking the queen here. *(14.Qd1* -1.28/21 14.Nd4-c6 -0.58 If this, then after *Nfg4+ 15.Bxg4 Qxh4+ 16.Bh3 Bg4* white is in a lot of trouble despite being up a piece. If *17.f3 Bxh3 18.gxh3 Qf4+ 19.Kh1 Rad8* White must now prevent ...Qf4-h4! *20.Nce2* and this might look like black is losing down a piece, but there is an incredible *Qh4! 21.Kh2 Ng6-+* with Nf4 coming and white can resign here. *)* 14...Qxd3 15.cxd3 Nxf3+ 16.gxf3 Bh4xf6 would now be deadly. bxc6 17.Bxf6 gxf6= Here even though black is up a pawn, both player's pawn structures are so bad that nobody has the advantage.]

12...Ne5 13.Bd5 Ng6N 0.07/20 Here though Jiri made an inaccuracy as this allows Bxf6 and the queen trade where white'll damage black's structure and have better chances in every endgame.

[13...g5 What would've been correct here is this which feels bad as it feels

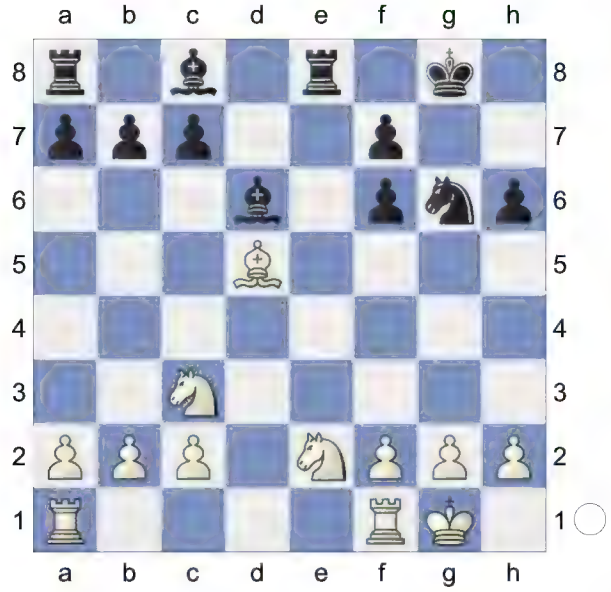
like it weakens the king, but after 14.Bg3 Nxd5 15.Qxd5 *(15.Nxd5?* -1.28/21 15.Qd4xd5 -0.20 This is a mistake because of *Nc6! 16.Qc4 Rxe2! 17.Qxe2* And now Ra1-d1 would win. *Bxg3∓* and black is just much better here.*)* 15...c6! kicking out the queen 16.Qb3 a5∓ with a4 incoming and black is a bit better due to his better space advantage.]

[13...c6∓ -0.33/21 was preferrable. 14.Bb3 c5]

14.Bxf6= Qxf6 15.Qxf6

[15.Rad1 is interesting. Be5 16.Qc5 c6 17.Bb3]

15...gxf6



16.g3?! -0.61/19 This isn't a really good move, point is obviously that after c6 he can return to g2, but it's not the best option.

[16.Rad1 This would've probably been better, ready to play Rfe1. If c6 now, then c6?? 1.57/20 *(* Better is *16...Kf8=* 0.01/16 *)* 17.Bxf7+!± Kxf7 18.Rxd6±]

[16.Bb3= 0.17/19]

16...c6∓ 17.Bg2 Bc7 Moving away from Rfd1 in order to play h5 or Ba5. **18.Rfe1 Ba5?!** This was Jiri's idea, but it's not the best idea.

[18...h5 This would've been better, looking to play h4 and punish white for playing g3 as now it is a hook. e.g. 19.Ne4 Kg7 20.Rad1 h4∓ And this is a bit of a problem for white so because black has ability to do this and even maybe play h3 at some point giving him a ton of space on the king side and making those pawns extremely vulnerable in every endgame.]

19.Nd4 Bd7 0.38/23 This is a mistake though. You don't want to trade rooks here as black as there is a rule in chess, you have to trade 1 pair of rooks exactly to have any advantage in the endgame and black's doubled pawns and current h6 pawn since he didn't go h5-h4 are pretty bad.

[19...Rd8 This would've been a better move, where after 20.Nb3 Bc7= black now again might have some chances to play h5-h4 and also there is now an option of Bg4 where the bishop will be very active. White on the other hand wants to prevent black from playing Bg4 with Nc5 pressuring b7.]

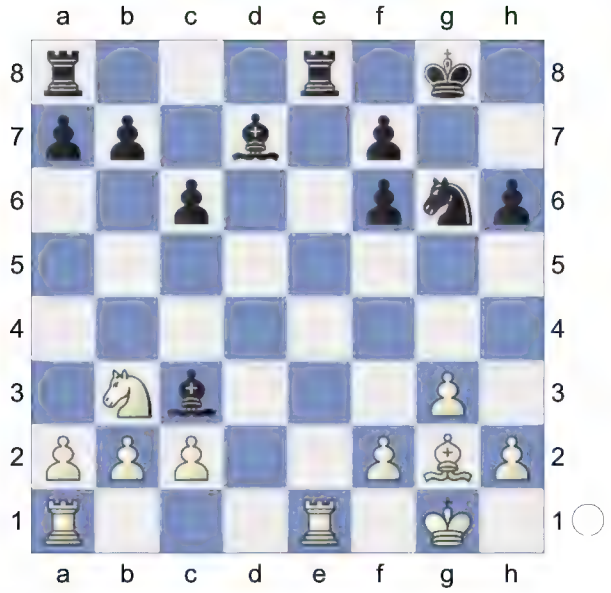
[19...Rd8= -0.10/19 20.Nb3 Bc7]

20.Nb3? Onischuk missed the best move though since it's Rapid and he went for an easy solution even though it's the best plan.

[20.Rxe8+! I've already said, white likes the idea of trading the rooks as after Rxe8 21.Ne4! forcing Kg7 so that you can play Nd6. Kg7 0.38/22 *(21...Bd8±* 0.89/22 *)* 22.Nd6!± This knight now is extremely powerfull as well as the knight on d4 that can

jump to f5 and these knights overall are much stronger then black's bishops currently.]

20...Bxc3



21.bxc3 Rad8 The reason why black now can trade is that after **22.f4?!** White should've traded the rooks.

[22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 23.Nc5 Bc8!= even though black's pawn structure is damaged, white's structure is also and black's bishop has a bit more targets then white's bishop, so white's knight currently cannot move from here if it wants to. What white would like is to play Ne4 and pressure the king side of course as it's weaker then the queen side because of the worse pawn structure on that side.]

22...Kg7?! The reason why this is not correct is that black should've played b6 so that b7 is never a problem and black can use his bishop to target all of white's weaknesses on the queen side followed by c5 probably for the same reason, just for the bishop on g2 to not have any targets.

[22...b6 23.Rxe8+ Rxe8 24.Rd1 Nf8 25.Kf2 c5!= Something like this is what black should've went for.]

23.Kf2 Bf5?! 0.46/22 This is not a good move by any means. You still have the same problems on the queen side you had before because of white's knight and bishop, you cannot yet go for white's weaknesses.

[23...b6 24.Rxe8 Bxe8 25.a4 c5= Again, this is what black needs in order to have drawing chances.]

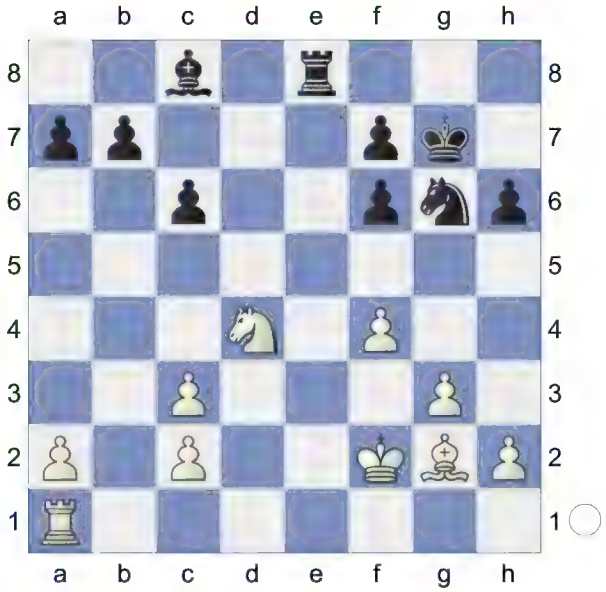
[23...b6= -0.01/22 feels stronger.]

24.Nd4± Forcing the bishop back.

24...Bc8

[24...Bd7 I like this move a bit more then Bc8 because after 25.Rxe8 Rxe8 26.a4 Ne7 b6 will be possible as the pawn on c6 is well protected. White is a bit better here though since his knight on d4 not only pressures c6 but also looks at f5 maybe and at b5 if c5 happens, making it a solid piece which black really needs to look out for.]

25.Rxe8 Rxe8



26.c4 Not a lover of this move even though it's not a bad move at all looking to play c5 and stop what black should've done a billion times by now.

[26.a4 I think that this is better as after Ne7 27.a5± b6 is now impossible and overall that structure isn't going anywhere. a6 is also possible at some point as well because of this weakness on c6. Even though that pawn might look strong, it's not once the b7 pawn gets removed.]

26...Ne7 27.Rb1 0.01/22

[27.Re1± 0.43/21]

27...Rd8

[27...c5! I think this is a better move then Rd8 because now after 28.Nb5 Rd8 you're looking to get in for a cost of a pawn and that way get an equal position. If 29.Ke1 Prevents Rd8-d2 Nf5 30.Nxa7 Ne3! and you get your hand on these pawns. Problem though and the reason why white is a bit better even after this is that after 31.Nxc8 Nxg2+ 32.Kf2 Rxc8 33.Kxg2 Ra8 34.Rb2! Ra4 35.Kf3 Rxc4 36.Ke3± white is getting to the queen side and if black doesn't play b5, black will be in a very bad position.]

28.Ke3 -0.56/21 This isn't the correct way to play though because now c5 is really good for black as we're about to see.

[28.Rd1 This is much better as even though it looks like it pins the knight to the rook, after c5 there is Nf5+ which is a simple tactic of a discovered check, so first black needs to go. aiming for Nd4-f5+! Kg8 but then 29.c5 and white is a bit better as the next move is c3 and slowly but surely white is taking over the game since he'll get his pawns of the light squares while black still has some pawns on the light squares for white's bishop to pick up at some point if black isn't careful.]

[28.Rd1!± 0.35/23 Kh8 29.Rd3]

28...c5!↑ Black is more active. **29.Nb5**

[29.Nb3 Nb3 is a move, but a simple b6= and now black's only problem is his bad structure on the king side which his king is defending very well. At the same time, white's problematic and weak queen side is still a problem for white. Also, one of the pieces can land on f5 and there is again h5-h4 while white has a4-a5]

29...a6 30.Nc3 -0.90/22

[30.Na3∓ -0.41/23 might be stronger.]

30...Nf5+∓

31.Ke2! A very important move to stop Rd2 infultration. Yes, white has to walk into the fork in order to have any chances as he is currently worse since black is getting some activity with his knight.

[31.Kf2?? -2.45/21 31.Ke3-e2 -0.69 This is very bad as there is Rd2+-+ and when this rook enters the 2nd rank like this with everything being there white is just dead lost. Black is

just gonna win all the pawns on the queen side and start pushing with a 3 on 1.]

31...Nd4+! 32.Kf2! Important not to walk into any checks while still keeping the king on the 2nd rank as here the king protects from the infultration to d2.

32...Nxc2 33.Bd5? -1.05/22 Wrong piece.

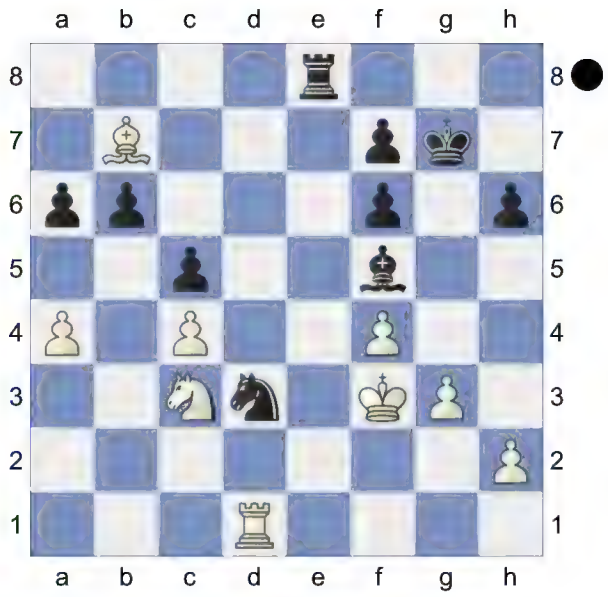
[33.Rd1 Trading the rooks favors white and black, black because he is up a pawn and white because that rook getting to d2 is white's biggest fear in the position. Rxd1 34.Nxd1 Na3 -0.53/23 *(34...b5∓* -0.97/20 *35.Nc3 bxc4)* 35.Nb2∓ Kf8= Black is a bit better as he is much more active then white and has much more pressure on white then white has on him.]

[33.Ne4∓ -0.59/23 is superior.]

33...Nb4 34.a4 Be6? -0.70/22 This is not a good move though as white's not gonna fix your structure and now white has a5 stopping any progress for black on the queen side.

[34...b6 I think we went through why this move has to be played a bunch of times. 35.Rd1 Bf5 36.Bb7 Nd3+ -0.94/22 *(⌓36...Rxd1* -1.40/22 *37.Nxd1 Bd7)* 37.Ke2 -1.88/24 *(37.Kf1∓* -0.94/22 *)* 37...Re8+-+ 38.Kf3

(Diagram)



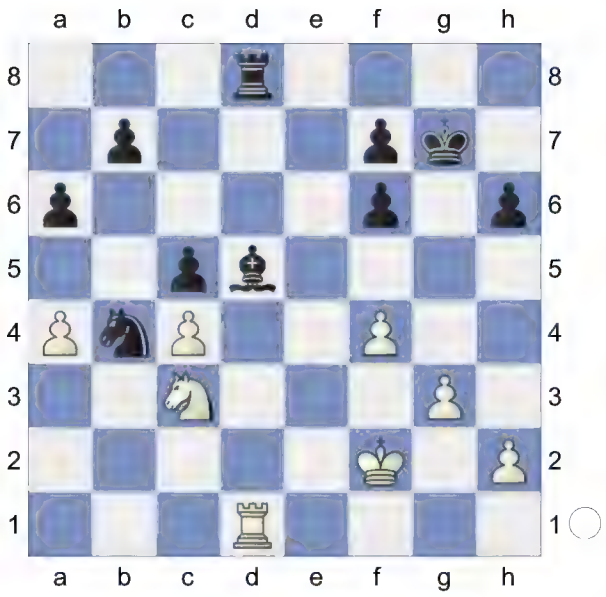
Nb2!∓ Something like this could happen and black is obviously better here as white doesn't have many targets, yes b6 will be weak but c4 and a4 are much weaker and therefore not only us black up a pawn, but white has more weaknesses + they're on light squares meaning black has easier time exploiting them, giving black an advantage.]

[34...b6∓ -1.26/21 35.Rd1 Bf5]

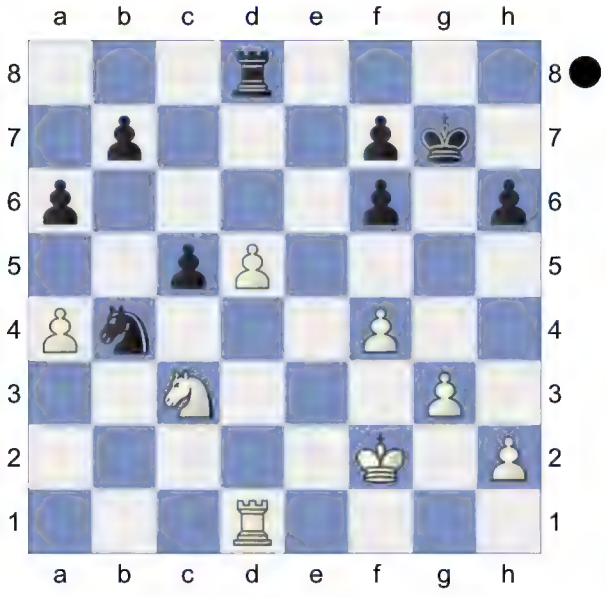
35.Rd1 Bxd5 -0.53/24

[35...Bg4∓ -0.99/21 36.Bf3 Rxd1 37.Nxd1 Bc8]

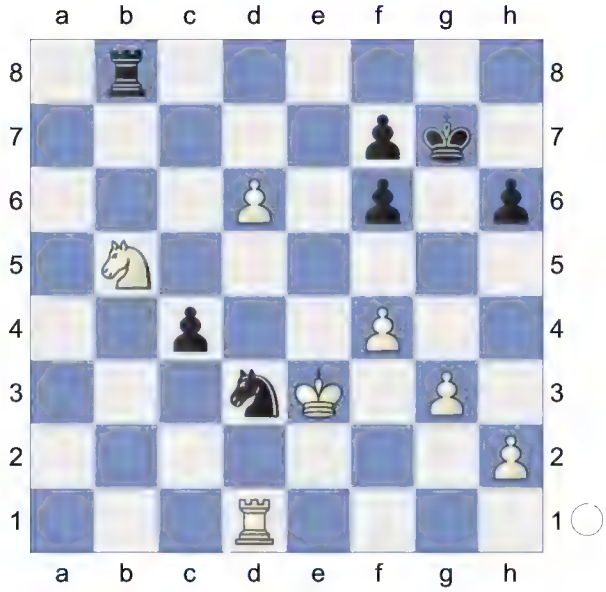
(Diagram)



36.cxd5 Endgame.

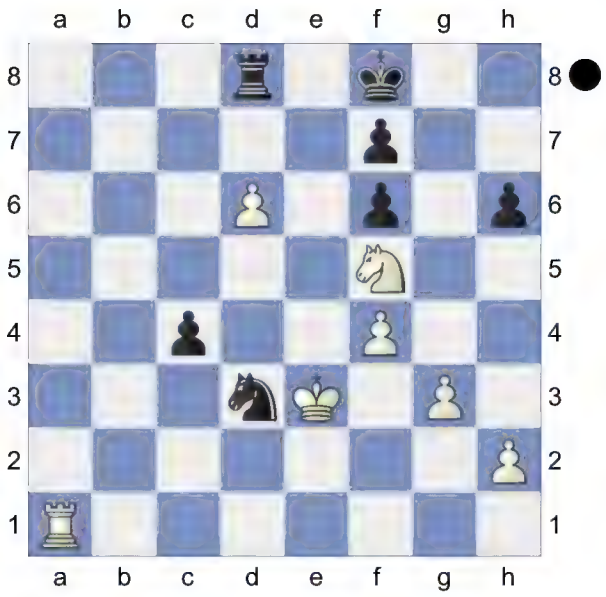


KRN-KRN **36...b5?** 0.11/21 Ouch. This is bad now as white has a past pawn on d5 and after **37.axb5= axb5 38.d6** white is just pushing the pawn and black isn't on time to push his pawns.
38...c4?? 1.27/22 And here black just blundered the pawn and the game as well. White's king will get to e3 and black cannot stop white from advancing the d pawn and also protect the queen side.
[38...Rb8 You have to protect the pawn since after 39.d7 Nc6= you're on time and now there is b4 for black.]
[Black should try 38...Rb8± 0.40/23]
39.Nxb5± White is more active.
39...Nd3+ 1.87/22
[39...Rb8± 1.38/21]
40.Ke3+- Strongly threatening Ke3-d4.
40...Rb8



41.Nd4
[Don't do 41.d7?! Rd8±]
41...Kf8 2.45/21
[41...Re8+± 1.51/18 42.Kd2 Kh7]
42.Ra1 1.05/22
[42.Nc6+- 2.45/21 and White stays clearly on top. Rb7 43.Na5]
42...Rd8 2.52/22
[42...Nc5± 1.05/22 is a better defense.]
43.Nf5

(Diagram)



And here Jiri simply resigned as white's d pawn is well protected, h6 is hanging and the c4 pawn is extremely weak as well as f6 if white can get to it. So yes, Onischuk was actually fighting for an advantage and his opponent simply blundered in a Rapid game, but both players had some chances in this pretty complicated but instructive endgame. Unlike the other ones, Onischuk didn't have the easiest time though and this line might be seen more in the future and it might not, it's still a line that hasn't really been explored.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.29 (precise)
1-0

49 **C01**
□ **Onischuk,V** **2601**
■ **Martinovic,Sa** **2550**
European Blitz 2016 (12.24) 17.12.2016
[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

We're gonna skip a few games where Onischuk won as the players he played were far beyond him and they brought nothing new, nothing extremely exciting. This game though is a Short n' Sweet. It's the European Blitz Championship of 2016. It was the day when Onischuk chose violence.
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

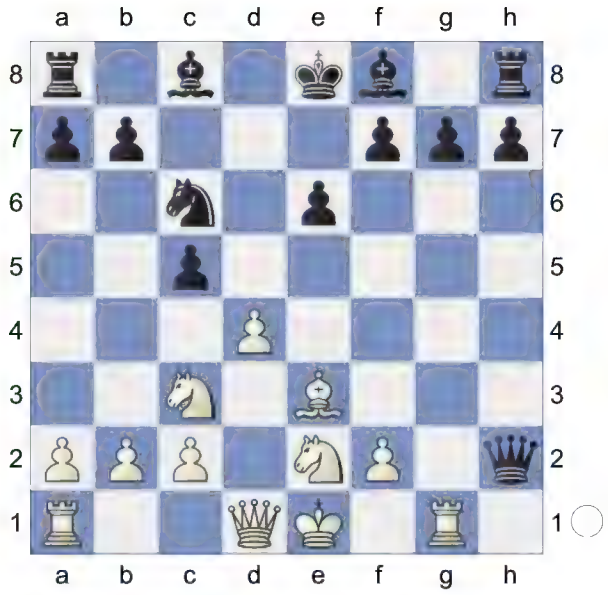
Main Line, nothing bad was played here by Sasa. **6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 Nd5?!** 0.42/21 And then Sasa made a slight inaccuracy. Watch as Onischuk just obliterates Sasa off the board withing next 10 moves.
[7...cxd4 This is the correct move as we saw in the game Onischuk played against GM Dronavalli Harika.]
[7...cxd4= -0.13/19 8.Nxd4 Ne5]
8.Bxd5!± According to engine, this is the only way to get the advantage as white. Reason? This knight on d5 is actually powerfull if left there.
[8.Bc1?! -0.13/18 8.Bf3xd5 0.42 This might seem tempting to keep the bishop pair but it's extremely awful as now white is behind in the development. Be7 9.0-0 0-0

10.Nbc3 Nxc3! Black can already trade the pieces. Yes, the knight is strong, but the follow up can be even stronger if white takes with the knight so white has to damage his structure. 11.bxc3∓ Here black is of course a bit better due to better development (white is a bit passive right now) and due to white's bad pawn structure. *(11.Nxc3??* -1.39/19 11.b2xc3 -0.09 This blunders after *cxd4 12.Nb5* and here, not a6 to put the knight on a3, but instead *e5∓* with f5 incoming. white is also just down a pawn here and cannot do absolutely anything. *)*]

8...Qxd5 White has an edge. **9.Nbc3!** Obvious move, attacking the queen, no? But what about the pawns on the king side? This looks like Onischuk is a 300 elo player who just blundered his king side pawns. **9...Qxg2 10.Rg1** Obviously the only move. **10...Qxh2**

[10...Qf3 11.Nb5 Rb8 12.dxc5 Bd7 *(12...f6 13.Nd6+ Bxd6 14.Qxd6 g6 15.Rd1 Rf8 16.Nd4 Qd5 17.Qxd5 exd5 18.Bf4 Nxd4 19.Rxd4 Ra8 20.Rxd5 Be6 21.Rd6 Kf7 22.Kd2 g5 23.Be3 Rfd8 24.Rxd8 Rxd8+ 25.Kc3 Rd7 26.a4 h5 27.b4* 1-0 (39) Kovalev,V (2641)-Tabatabaei,M (2577) Aeroflot Open A 2018 (8.1)*)* 13.Nc7+ Kd8 14.Nb5 Ne5 15.Qd4 Qd5 16.0-0-0 Qxd4 17.Bxd4 Nf3 18.Bxg7 Nxg1 19.Bxh8 Nxe2+ 20.Kb1 Bxc5 21.Bf6+ Kc8 22.Nd6+ Bxd6 23.Rxd6 Nf4 24.Rd4 Ng6 25.h4 0-1 (54) Hantel,T (2744)-Deslandes,P (2800) CLA-007 VCC 2002 (3)]

(Diagram)



11.Bf4! And now this is important, attacking the queen. Only move for black here is Qh3. **11...Qh5** Sasa doesn't play that and goes for this instead. I explained why this is wrong in the sequence below.

[11...Qh3! Reason why this is the only move is that after 12.Nb5 f6! The only defensive resource, sacrificing the rook in the corner. 13.Nc7+ Kf7! 14.Nxa8 cxd4! To play Bb4+ 15.Nxd4 Bb4+! and now this might look stupid. 16.c3 It feels like white is just simply better after this. But no, there is a forced sequence of moves that black can play in order to get an equal position being Bxc3+! and white obviously has to take or he'll lose the game due to all the threat of Nxd4. 17.bxc3 And now this is the reason why Qh3 is the only good move in the position. With the queen on h5, Qxc3+ isn't possible. Qxc3+ This knight is now hanging and after 18.Bd2 Qxd4= position is dead equal due to black having too many pawns for the rook that white got. Also, white's knight is

currently useless until it get's back to the position if it'll even manage to do that.]

12.Nb5 Immediately punishing black's Qh5 move. **12...Ke7N** 1.19/21 And here Sasa tried to save the rook losing the game on the spot.

[12...f6! This is black's only survival move, as after 13.Nc7+ Kf7! 14.Nxa8 cxd4! even though black is down a rook, black gets a bit of compensation for it and white has to find 15.Qd3 and now black doesn't play Bb5+ like in the previous variation as the queen is on h5 instead of h3 and plays. Prevents Qh5-f3 g5 16.Bg3 e5! and now this dark squares blockade makes white's DSB useless, while black's DSB still has a lot of space on which it can land and can be useful on b5. In the same time, black's LSB now becomes extremely active due to so many light squares being open. Also, white doesn't have a LSB because he traded for a knight earlier in the game, which now comes back to bite. After 17.Nc7 Bb4+! 18.c3 Ba5! the position is equal only if after perfect play by black. That's impossible in a Blitz game obviously. There are only 3 good moves for white which are all about getting his knight to safety and black needs to answer perfectly.

A) 19.Nd5 If white plays Nd5, black has to find. 0-0-0 would now be deadly. Be6! and now white must play b4 to save the knight.

A1) 20.Nb4?? -2.91/24 20.b2-b4 0.01 This losses to dxc3! 21.bxc3 Nxb4! and now if white tries to get back the knight with 22.cxb4 Bxb4+ white has no good moves.

A1a) 23.Kd1 If this is played, black has a simple but effective Ke7 with Rd8 incoming. If white moves the queen, then after 24.Qe3? -10.09/23 *(24.Qe4 -2.27/22 Rd8+ 25.Kc2 Rd2+ 26.Kc1)* 24...Rd8+-+ 25.Kc1 Qg6-+ this kign is getting obliterated and white cannot do anything at all.;

A1b) 23.Nc3?? -12.71/22 23.Ke1-d1 -3.00 If Nc3, then there is an absolutely brilliant Rd8!! sacrificing the rook for a beautiful checkmating idea. After 24.Qxd8 Bxc3+! 25.Kf1 Bh3+! -3.37/5 white has to sacrifice the rook. *(⌓25...Qf3* -17.05/27 (-> ...Be6-c4+) *26.Rg2 Bh3* Pin *27.Qc7+ Kg6)* 26.Rg2-+ But black doesn't take any of the two rooks and instead plays an even more beautiful Qf3! being patient. And after 27.Qd6 Bxg2+ 28.Kg1 Bh3-+ Qg2# is an unstoppable mate. Repels Qd6-d7+;

A1c) 23.Kd1 -3.44/26 Qg6 24.Qxg6+ Kxg6 25.Bh2;

A1d) 23.Kf1? -8.70/24 If this, now Bh3+ which you'll se later doesn't work anymore as the queen is on d3. Instead, you play 23...Qh3+!-+ 24.Rg2 and now Rd8!! SACRIFICING THE ROOK COMPLETLY. Qh1+ is gonna be a mate soon and after 25.Qxd8 *(25.Qe4* if black decides to not trade, then after *Qh1+ 26.Ng1*

there is *Bd5* and white cannot survive this. Best play for white is *27.Qxb4 Bxg2+ 28.Ke2 Rd4-+* but then rook comes down as you can see and white is dead. Against Qb4-c4+ *)* 25...Qh1+-+ the king is just simply dead.;

A2) 20.b4! Bd8! 21.b5 Na5 22.Nb4! White saved the knight, but after Re8∓ black gets some counterplay against the weak king in the center. The computer itself says that black is even a bit better here despite being down an exchange.;

B) 19.Qc4+ If this is played by white, black's only drawing move is

B1) 19...Kg6?? 0.87/20 19...Kf7-g7 -0.01 If this is played, black losses after 20.Nb5 and Nd6 is incoming no matter what black plays.. e.g. Rd8 1.22/21 trying to stop it. Dodges Nb5-d6 *(⌓20...dxc3* 0.80/19 *21.bxc3 Qg4)* 21.Nd6!!± Intending Qc4-f7+ and mate. Rxd6 2.04/21 *(21...Kg7±* 1.15/23 *22.Nxc8 dxc3 23.bxc3 Rxc8)* 22.Qg8+!+- If Kf5, Qxc8+. Kh6 23.Qf8+ Here you might think it's about the fork, but nope. Kg6 24.Bxe5! WHITE SACRIFICES THE BISHOP!!!! Black has to take it or he losses his rook and will get mated in the next few moves. He cannot take it with the knight because of Nf5+ fork. fxe5 25.Qxd6+ But now this comes with a check and no matter what black does, there is Kf7 2.21/19 *(25...Kg7* 1.73/22 was called for. *)* 26.b4+- Bb6 27.cxd4?? and white is not only up material but is also destroying black. There is all sorts of possible threats and black cannot do anything but resign.;

B2) 19...Kg7 as that's the only square on which black's king is safe from any knight attacks. White has only 2 moves here to keep the position equal (so white is also on the verge of losing the game). 20.Nb5 Trying to go for Nd6, but the problem is that after Rd8 now Nd6 isn't possible as there is no check on g8! And here white must castle or he'll lose himself. Prevents Nb5-d6. 21.0-0-0! This position is obviously extremely complicated, but the reason why it's equal is simply because of Bg4! 22.Nbxd4!! Which looks lunacris. *(22.Rge1?* -1.01/20 22.Nb5xd4 -0.40 This doesn't work as there is *Qf7! 23.Qxf7+ Kxf7 24.Rd2 d3! 25.Ng1 a6! 26.Na3 b5!∓* and black is now better because of his huge space advantage. These pieces white has are all useless and cannot move at all. Yes, black is down a rook for a piece, but this space advantage is enough of a compensation for the exchange to give black a huge advantage over white. Repels Na3-c4*)* 22...exd4 23.Nxd4 and here you cannot take the rook as that losses the game and instead you must play Qf7! and white has to trade the queens. If he doesn't, black will get back the rook for the piece and have a 3 on 1 on the king

side and this time, with equal material in pieces but not in pawns, black will have the advantage. *(23...Bxd1* Taking this is fine, but it allows *24.Ne6+ Kh6! 25.Nxd8* and now the only move that survives is *Be2! 26.Qg8 Bxd8!* and this is equal even though now black is up on material. Why? Because of the perpetual check. *27.Qf8+ Kg6 28.Qg8+=* The reason why this line is worse is because in the other line black can try to push for a win, here it's just a draw.*)* 24.Qxf7+! Kxf7 25.Nxc6 bxc6 26.Rxd8 Bxd8= and here the position is equal because black has a 3 on 1 on the king side. So even though black is down material this saves the game for black. It saves it so well that actually black can play for the advantage here.;

C) 19.Nb5 If white plays this, then the only move that saves the game is 19...Rd8! stopping Nd6+ which would've been devastating. Here white must castle as his kign is too weak. ...d4xc3 is the strong threat.

C1) 20.b4?? -2.54/21 20.0-0-0 0.01 If white for example tries this, then after dxc3! 21.Nd6+ Rxd6! 22.Qxd6 Nxb4! this pawn is extremely strong. If white tries to take it with 23.Nxc3?? -6.44/21 *(⌓23.Bxe5* -2.84/21 *fxe5 24.Rg3 Qh1+ 25.Ng1)* 23...Qf3!-+ and white is lost.;

C2) 20.0-0-0! Black must now prevent Rg1-h1. 20...dxc3!

C2a) 21.Qb1!? Qxe2 *(21...Bf5? 22.Qxf5 Qxe2 23.Qxh7+ Ke6 24.Nxc3+-)* 22.Qxh7+ Kf8 23.Qh6+ Kf7 24.Qh7+ Kf8 25.Qh6+ Kf7 26.Qh7+=;

C2b) 21.Qe3 cxb2+ 22.Kxb2 Bb6! 23.Qb3+! Be6 24.Qc2= And here the position is equal because of how weak white's king is and because of how many the 4 on 1 on the king side that black has.]

[12...e5? 13.dxe5 Be7 14.Nc7+ *(14.Rxg7 Kf8=)* 14...Kf8 15.Nxa8+-]

[12...f6!= 0.23/22 remains equal.]

13.Bd6+ Not the best move, there was a quicker way to do this, but this is also fine.

[13.Qd2 0.31/21 13.Bf4-d6+ 0.82 A simple, queit move. Here black cannot survive whatever he does, with the difference that this isn't the most forcing line.

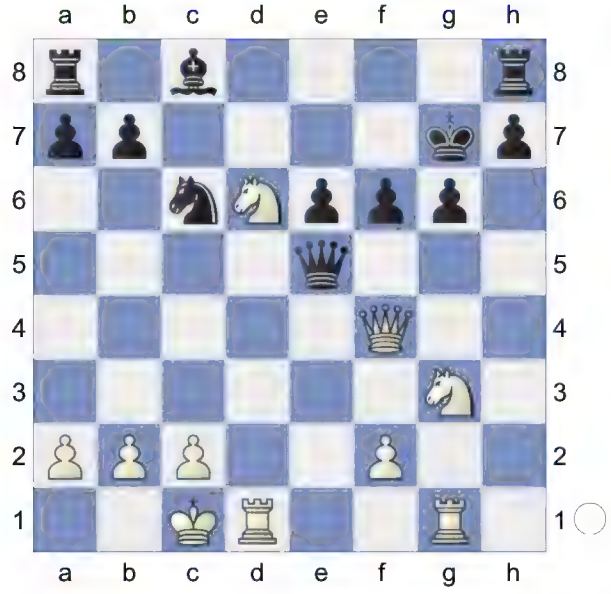
A) 13...cxd4 1.55/21 13...f7-f6 0.41 If black takes on d4, then simply 14.Nexd4! black has to take the knight or he'll lose to Nxc6+. Nxd4 2.41/22 *(14...Ne5±* 1.57/20 was worth a try.*)* 15.Qb4++- and black will run into the check after white takes the knight and be destroyed. If Ke8? 9.22/22 *(15...Kd8* 2.23/22 *16.Qxd4+ Bd7)* 16.Nc7+!+- is an even quicker way of destroying black.;

B) 13...f6! If black tries to escape, then an even colder move is 14.0-0-0 -0.01/20 *(14.Nc7!±* 0.75/20 *)* 14...Kf7? 1.78/20 *(14...cxd4=* -0.01/20 *15.Nc7 e5 16.Nxa8 Kf7)* 15.Nc7+- Rb8 and now you open up the center with 16.d5! and black is losing.

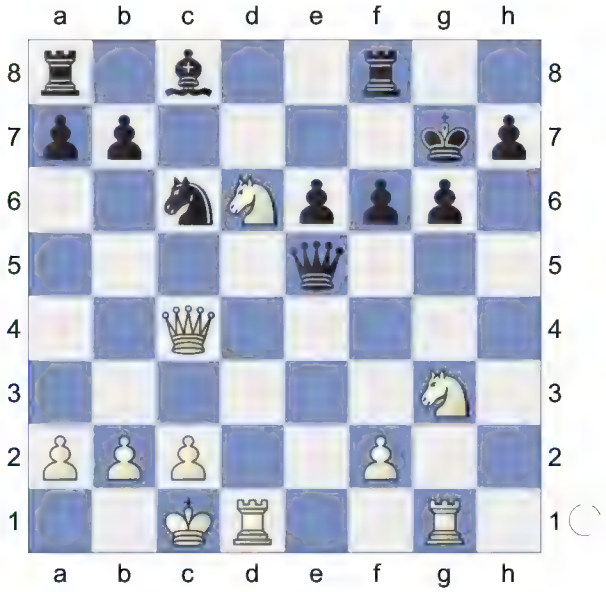
exd5 17.Qe3 Threat is Qe8+ Ne5 18.Rxd5 and here black simply cannot stop everything and will lose the game. Best try is Qf3 to trade the queens, but after. Threatens to win with ...Qf3xe3+. 19.Rxe5! Qxe3+ 20.Rxe3+- white simply has a piece more and will win the game.]

13...Kf6 14.dxc5 e5? 2.01/19
This is a mistake in an already lost position.

[14...Bxd6 0.94/20 14...g7-g6 0.52 Black had to take the bishop where after 15.Nxd6 aiming for Nd6-e4+. g6 16.Qd2 And now Qd2-f4+ would win. Kg7 17.0-0-0 Hoping for Qd2-f4! Qxc5? 2.43/21 black has 2 extra pawns. But white has a huge attack. *(17...Qf3!± 0.41/20)* 18.Qf4+- f6 *(18...Rf8?? 8.14/22* 18...f7-f6 2.34 This doesn't work because of *19.Rh1!+-)* 19.Ng3! with the point of Nge4, you've gotta stop that. Qe5 2.87/22 *(19...Rf8* 1.88/21 might work better. *)*



Repels Nd6-e4 20.Qc4! 1.09/19
And here black cannot do anything as Ngf5+ is coming. *(20.Ndf5+!+-* 2.87/22 is the precise move to win. *exf5 21.Nh5+ Kf7 22.Qh6)* 20...Rf8±



which does stop that idea, now 21.Kb1! getting away from the diagonal and putting black in a zugzwang where black is completely lost. The attack is simply to strong. Strongly threatening Qc4-h4. Bd7? 4.12/21 *(21...Kh8±* 0.79/20 *)* 22.Rh1+-]

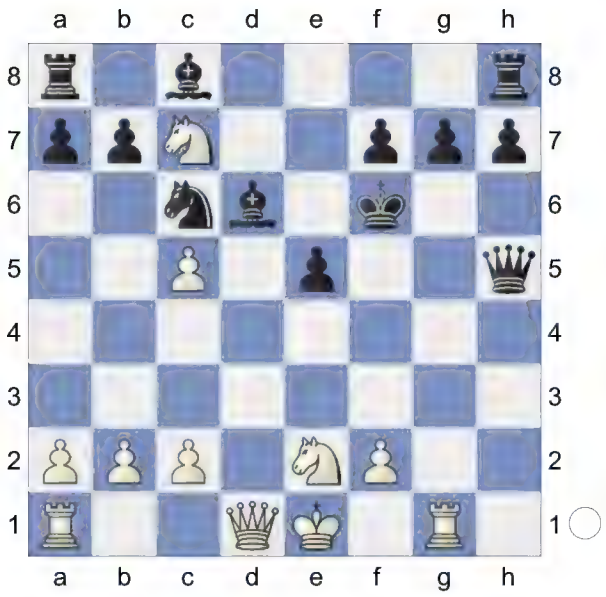
[14...g6± 0.33/22]

15.Nc7+- Bxd6?? #11/20

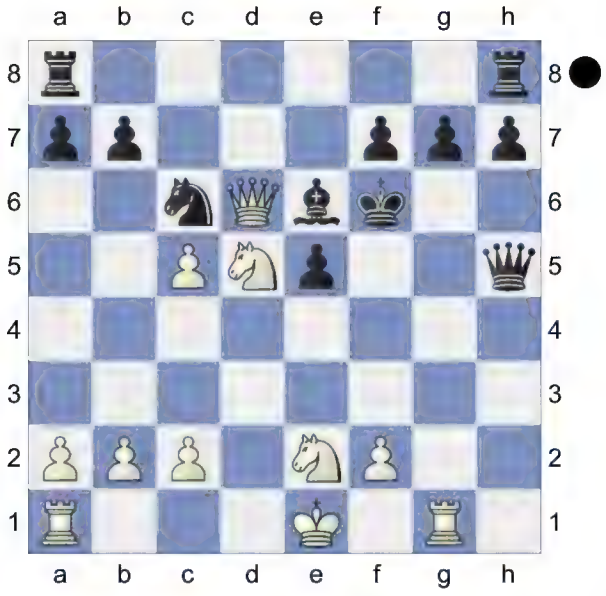
[15...Bg4 2.53/22 15...Bc8-e6 1.68 The best move, but after 16.Bxf8 Qd1-d6+ would kill now. Raxf8? 8.34/23 *(16...Rd8* 2.27/20 *17.Bd6 g5 18.Nd5+ Kg7)* 17.Qd6++- Kg5 18.f4+!+- the king is being hunted around the board.]

[15...Be6± 1.31/22]

(Diagram)



This blunders mate in 16 actually which is funny. **16.Qxd6+**
[16.Nxa8 Bb8 *(16...Bxc5 17.Qd5∓)* 17.Nc3 Qxd1+ 18.Rxd1 g6 *(18...Be6 19.Ne4+* Deflection *Ke7 20.Rxg7∓)* 19.Nd5+ Kg7-+]
16...Be6 17.Nd5+ 7.27/5
[⌓17.Nc3 16.39/22 g6 18.Nxe6 fxe6 19.Ne4+ Kg7 20.Qd7+ *(20.Qxe6 Rhf8=)* 20...Kh6 21.Ng5 *(21.Qxb7 Nd4=)*]



Here Sasa resigned as he probably now saw the mate as well. Now, you might say "This isn't impresive, Onischuk's opponent made a blunder, of course he lost." and to that I'll say so did your opponent many times and you didn't punish them. This is just pure aggression in 17 moves with a lot of depth behind it as you saw and it's a really, really complicated game that shows how quickly Onischuk is able to punish opponent's mistakes in the middle game and obliterate them like this using this opening.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.91
1-0

50 **C01**
□ **Kovalenko,Igor** **2621**
■ **Ponkratov,Pavel** **2605**
Corporation Cup 2013 (5.1) 16.07.2013
[Kitty Kat]

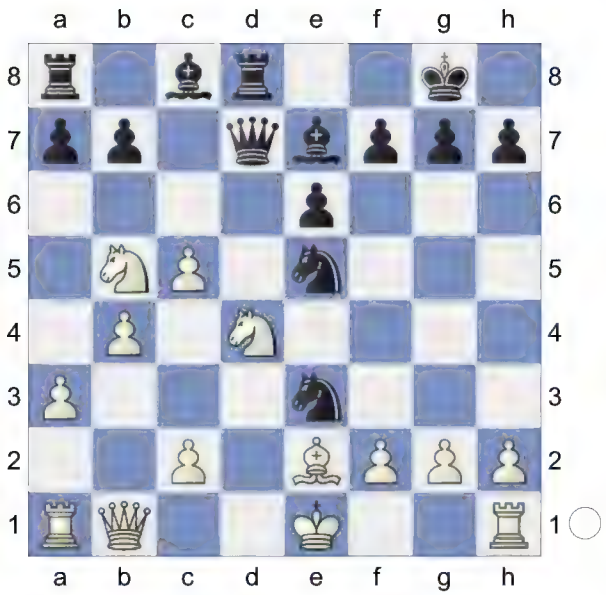
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

6.Ne2 Be7 7.Nbc3 0-0 8.Be3 Qa5
The position is equal. **9.a3N**
[9.dxc5 Rd8 10.Qc1 Nc6 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.0-0 Bxc5 13.Bxc5 Qxc5 14.Ng3 Ba6 15.Re1 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-6...Be7 #4]
[9.0-0 Nc6 10.Qd2 *(10.Bxc6 bxc6 11.dxc5 Ng4 12.Bd2 Qxc5 13.h3 Nf6 14.Be3 Qb4 15.Qd4 c5* 3) Unregelmäßig-3 | Unregelmäßig 3. Ld3 | We *)* 10...cxd4 11.Nxd4 Ne5 12.Qe2 Nxf3+ 13.Qxf3 Bd7 14.Rfe1 Rfd8 15.a3 Rac8 16.Nb3 Qa6 17.Bd4 b6 18.Qg3 Bc6 19.Be5 Qc4 20.Rad1 Qg4 21.Nd4 Qxg3 22.Bxg3 Ba8 23.Ndb5 Rxd1 ½-½ (83) Fargere,F (2520)-Salgado Lopez,I (2630) EU-ch 12th Aix les Bains 2011 (2) 24.Rxd1 a6 25.Bd6 Kf8 26.Bxe7+ Kxe7 27.Nd4 Rd8 28.f3 g6 29.Kf2 e5 30.Nde2 Rxd1 31.Nxd1 Nd7 32.c4 f5 33.Ke3 g5 34.Ndc3 Kd6 35.b4 Bc6 36.Kd3 Nf6 37.Nc1 e4+ 38.fxe4 Nxe4 ½-½ (83) Fargere,F (2418)-Michiels,B (2536) FRA-chT Top 12 2015 (11.5)]
9...Rd8 ...c5xd4 is the strong threat.
10.Qb1 Nc6 -0.03/21
[10...cxd4∓ -0.53/20 11.Nxd4 Nbd7]

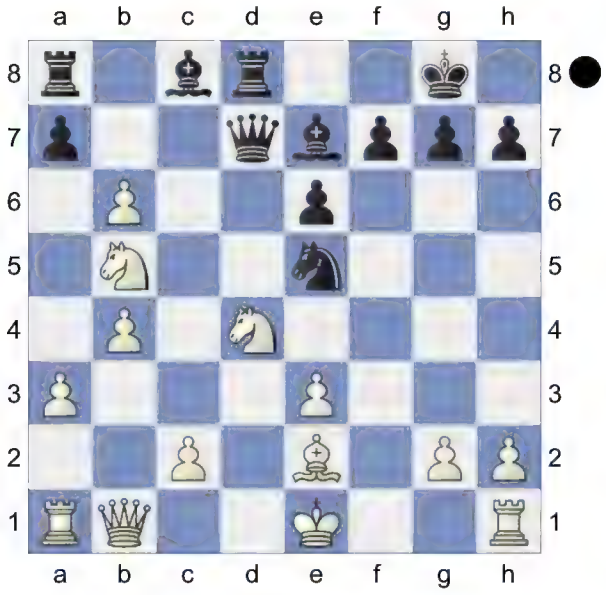
(Diagram)

11.dxc5 Ne5
[11...Bxc5? 12.b4 Qc7 13.bxc5+- *(13.Bxc5 Ne5+-)*]
12.Nd4! Nfg4
[12...Qxc5 13.Nxe6 Nxf3+ 14.gxf3±]
[12...Bxc5? 13.Nb3 Qc7 *(13...Nxf3+? 14.gxf3 Qc7 15.Nxc5+-)* 14.Nxc5+- *(14.Bxc5 Nxf3+ 15.gxf3 Nh5±)*]
[12...Qc7 simplifies 13.b4 Bd7 14.Nce2 Nxf3+ 15.Nxf3 b6]
13.b4 Qc7 14.Ncb5 Qd7 15.Be2 -1.21/21
[15.Bxg4∓ -0.39/20 Nxg4 16.c4]
15...Nxe3∓

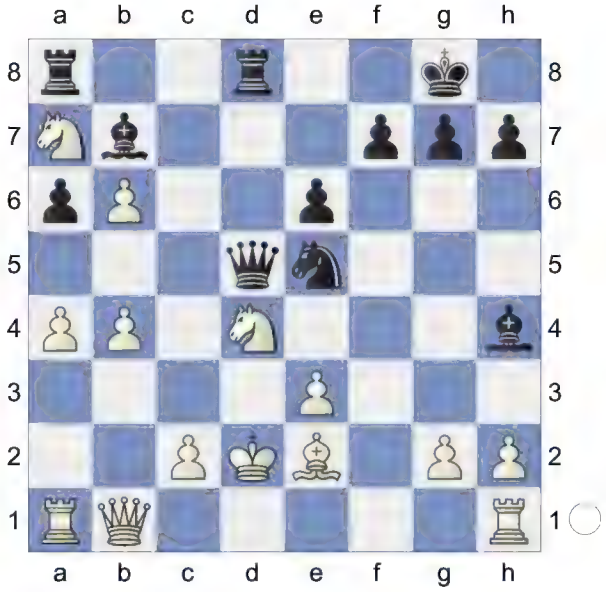
(Diagram)



16.fxe3 b6 17.cxb6



a6
[17...axb6 18.0-0=]
18.Na7
[18.Nc7? Rb8 19.Qb3 Rxb6 20.Nxa6 Bxa6-+]
18...Bb7 -1.05/18
[⩲18...Bh4+ -1.45/20 19.Kd2 Qb7 *(19...Bb7? 20.b5∓)*]
19.a4? -4.14/20
[19.0-0∓ -1.05/18 is tougher. Qd5 20.Nf3]
19...Bh4+? -1.50/18 This pair of bishops is nice.
[19...Bxg2 20.Rg1 Qb7 21.a5-+]
[19...Qd5-+ -4.14/20 is more deadly. 20.Qb3 Bh4+ *(20...Qxg2 21.0-0-0=)* 21.Kd1 Qxg2]
20.Kd2 Qd5



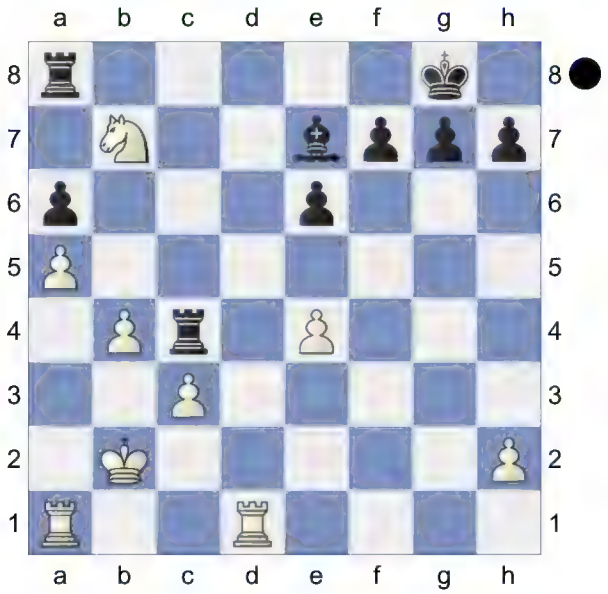
21.c3 Qxg2 22.Qf1 Threatens to win with Qf1xg2. **22...Nc4+**
[22...Qxh1? 23.Qxh1 Bxh1 24.Rxh1+-]
23.Kc1 Nxb6 Black is much more active. The white rooks are passive.
[23...Qxh1?! 24.Qxh1 Bxh1 25.Bxc4=]
24.Qxg2 Remove Defender **24...Bxg2**
25.Rg1 Bd5

(Diagram)

26.a5 Nc4 -0.28/23
[26...Bf2 27.axb6 Bxg1 28.Kd2=]
[26...Nd7∓ -0.72/19 27.Nac6 Rdc8]
27.e4!= Bb7
[27...Rxa7?! 28.exd5 Rc7 29.Rg4± *(29.dxe6 Bf6±; 29.Nc6 Rd6±)*]
28.Nac6 -0.59/23 Prevents Nc4-e5
[28.Bxc4= 0.12/23 Rxa7 29.Kb2]
28...Bxc6∓ 29.Bxc4 Bb7↑ Hoping for ... Rd8-c8! Black is more active.
[29...Bxe4 30.Rg4 Rac8 31.Rxh4±]
30.Kb2 Bf6
[30...Bxe4? 31.Rg4+-]

(Diagram)

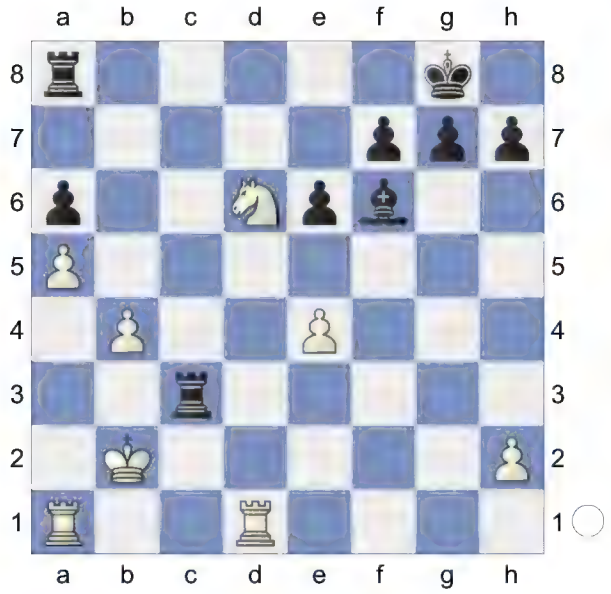
31.Nb3 Rdc8 32.Nc5 Be7 33.Nxb7
[33.Bxe6? fxe6 *(33...Bxc5? 34.Bxc8 Rxc8 35.bxc5+-; 33...Rxc5? 34.Bxf7+ Kxf7 35.bxc5-+)* 34.Nxb7 Rab8-+]
33...Rxc4 34.Rgd1 -1.66/22
[34.e5!= -0.17/21 and White has nothing to worry.]



34...Bf6!-+
[34...Rxe4 35.Rd7 Bf6 36.Kb3]
[34...Bxb4 35.Kb3 Rc7 36.cxb4=]
35.Nd6? -3.02/23
[35.Ka2∓ -1.17/21]

35...Rxc3

[35...Bxc3+ 36.Kb3 Bxa1 *(36...Rxb4+ 37.Kxc3 Rab8 38.Rdc1+-)* 37.Nxc4= *(37.Kxc4 Be5=)*]



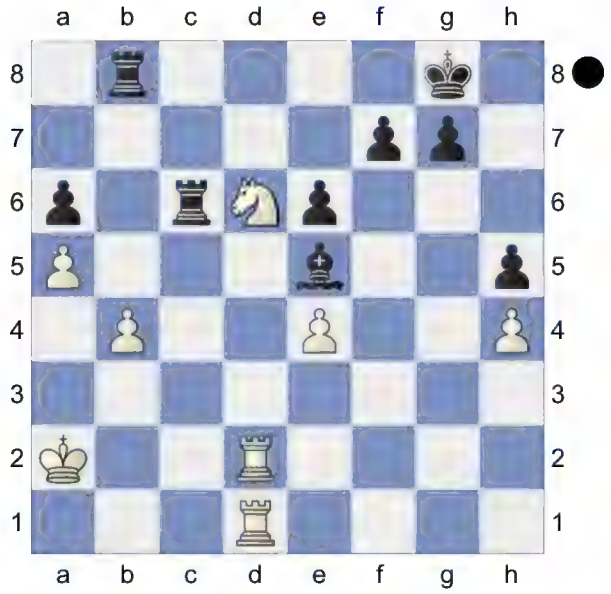
36.Rab1 Be5 37.Ka2 h5 38.h4? -4.37/21

[38.Nb7 -2.44/21]

38...Rb8 aiming for ...Rc3-c6. **39.Rd2** -7.13/22

[⌓39.b5 -4.47/22 Rc5 40.Rd3]

39...Rc6 40.Rbd1



Weighted Error Value: White=0.39/ Black=0.18 (very precise)

0-1

51 **C01**

□ **Onischuk,V** **2633**

■ **Mokshanov,Alexey** **2454**

Titled Tuesday 10. Nov (7) 10.11.2020

[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

We're gonna skip Onischuk's win against a 2150 as it's not cool to watch him destroy bad FMs really and go to this game to show another line black can play in the Schlechter French. It's another blitz game in which Onischuk chose violence.

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 Nf6? This is a possible line, allthough in my opinion (and the engine agrees) it's extremely awful. I explained why in my study on this opening, so be sure to check it out: https://lichess.org/study/B0VjjEXy **4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4** Something I like to do as for some reason I love f4 overall as a move. **5...c5**

[5...Qh4+?! This doesn't work as there is simply 6.g3 Qd8 7.Ne2± and white's gonna castle here anyways.]

(Diagram)

6.c3! Very important. Active counter play!

[6.Nf3 Allthough something like this might seem logical, after cxd4 7.Nxd4 Nc6 black is already trying to get rid of your pieces and this is now equal. 8.c3 Bc5 9.Nb3 0-0=]

6...Nc6

[6...cxd4?! Now this isn't good as after 7.cxd4 Nc6 8.Nf3± Bc5 doesn't attack the knight, it blunders a bishop. The pawn on d4 is very well protected and white enjoys more sapce in the center.]

7.Nf3 Qb6 8.Be2N The position is equal.

[8.Bc2 cxd4 9.cxd4 Bb4+ *(9...Nb4 10.0-0 Nxc2 11.Qxc2 Be7 12.Nc3 f5 13.Be3 0-0 14.Rfc1 Nb8 15.Na4 Qd8 16.a3 b6 17.b4 Bd7 18.Nb2 Nc6 19.Nd3 Rc8 20.Qb3 Be8 21.Rc3 Nb8 22.a4 Rxc3 23.Qxc3 Bh5 24.b5* ½-½ (25) Dubyna (2529)-Gratschov,D (2433) Katowice POL-HUN 10th rapid 2023 (4) *Bxf3 25.gxf3* Cuenca Jimenez,J (2492)-Kozak,A (2376) 131/(165) Gibraltar 2017 *)* 10.Nc3 0-0 11.Bxh7+ Kxh7 12.Ng5+ Kg6 13.Qg4 f5 14.Qh4 36) 1.e4 e6 French: 3...Nf6 &-French Nf6]

8...f6 9.a3 Be7 10.b4! An important move once more. The only move for advantage I should say.

[10.0-0 If something like this, now after cxd4 11.cxd4 fxe5 12.fxe5 Ndxe5= and the pawn is pinned to the king.]

10...cxd4

11.cxd4

[11.Nxd4? -0.20/18 11.b4-b5 0.21 You don't wanna take like this as after Nxd4 12.cxd4 0-0 you cannot castle due to the pin. aiming for ...f6xe5. 13.0-0 -0.73/22 *(13.Nc3=* 0.00/18 remains equal.*)* 13...fxe5∓ 14.fxe5 Nxe5∓]

11...0-0 12.Bb2 g5?? 0.80/20 This just losses a pawn. The king is not there yet, this is too aggressive.

[12...Qd8 This would've made more sense, to play Nb6 and Nc4. 13.0-0 Nb6 14.Nbd2 This stops Nc4 though, so that's why white is a bit better still, but after Bd7 15.Rc1 f5± white isn't better by much and black might have

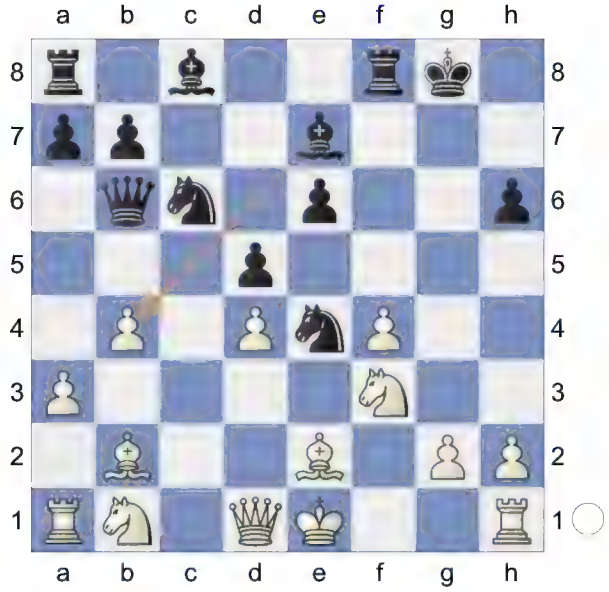
some attacking chances due to the locked center.]

[12...a5= 0.18/19 keeps the balance.]

13.exf6± Nxf6 14.Nxg5 h6 1.10/19

[⌓14...Bd6 0.71/18]

15.Nf3 Ne4



16.Nbd2!? White gives the pawn back interestingly enough. Why? Well, because he wants to develope quickly and not lose the advantage in the process.

[16.g3? 0.36/20 16.Nb1-c3 1.06 You don't want to play this as now there is e5! opening up the center while the king is still there. After 17.Nbd2 Nxd2 18.Qxd2 e4! 19.Ne5! white is a bit better because black's king isn't really that safe, but it's hard to prove that after Bh3± not allowing white to castle either. Also, this e4 pawn is really annoying for white because it takes away some space from white's pieces and it's a past pawn in the end that's very close to promotion.]

16...Rxf4 17.0-0 Bd7? 1.86/21 Black has to play e5. He never did though, so his vulnerable king pays the price in the end as you'll see.

[17...e5 You have to play this to activate your LSB and get it into the attack. This also tries to exploit the pin on the king.]

[17...e5± 1.04/20]

18.Nb3? 0.75/17 White makes a mistake right back though.

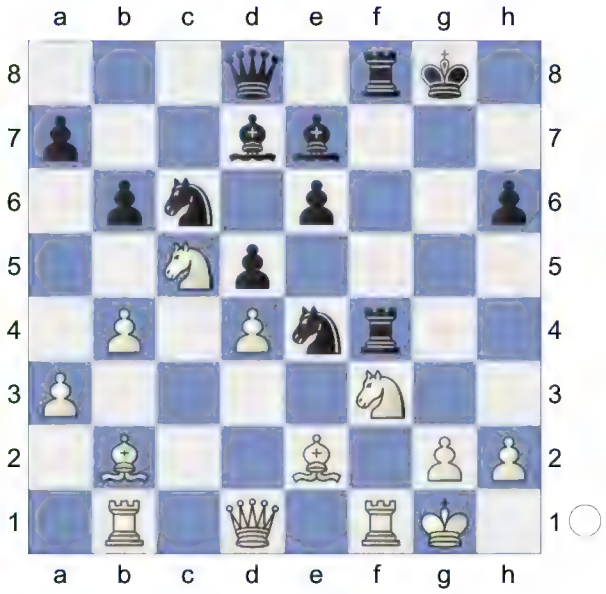
[18.b5 Don't know why this wasn't played as after Nd8 19.Ne5 Rxf1+ 20.Bxf1 Nxd2? 3.85/21 *(20...Nf6* 1.75/21 keeps fighting. *21.a4 Be8)* 21.Qxd2+- 2.27/22 black's king is very vulnerable and white is in a much better position. *(⌓21.Qh5 3.85/21 Bxb5 22.Qg6+ Kh8 23.Qxh6+ Kg8 24.Qg6+ Kh8 25.Bd3* Deflection *Bxd3 26.Qe8+ Bf8 27.Qxf8+ Kh7 28.Qe7+ Kh6 29.Nxd3)*]

[18.b5+- 1.86/21 has better winning chances.]

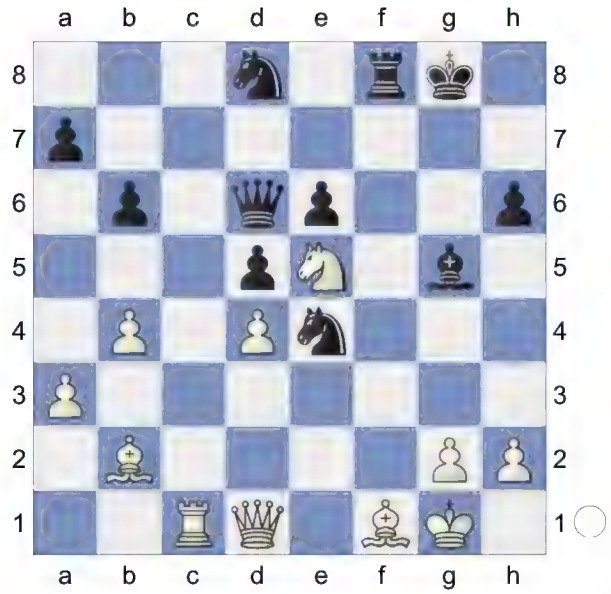
18...Raf8 19.Rb1 Qd8?! I'm just gonna play e5, I already explained why it's important.

[19...e5]

20.Nc5 Now black doesn't have e5 anymore since there is no pin on the king and it's not gonna ever be possible again. **20...b6**

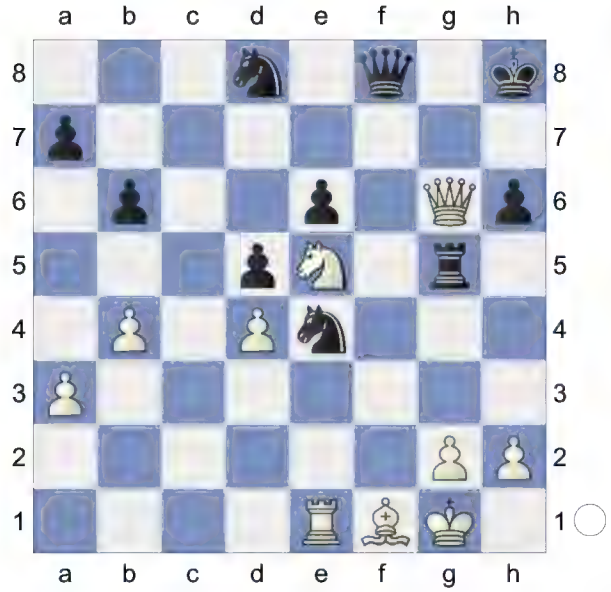


21.Nxd7 Qxd7 22.Bb5 Qd6 1.45/21
[⌓22...Nd6 0.84/20]
23.Rc1 Nd8 24.Ne5?? -0.65/21 Thing though is that Onischuk isn't perfect and actually blundered the game away here.
[24.Rc2± White has to go for Bc1 here to attack black's king.]
[24.Rc8± 1.41/21]
24...Rxf1+!∓ 25.Bxf1 Bg5!



26.Qg4? -1.82/25 Onischuk goes all in here. The problem is that this is lost after only 1 move which Alexey missed sadly.
[26.Rc2 White should've played this, but after the only move Be3+! 27.Kh1 Nf2+-+ white has to sacrifice the rook and is just losing.]
[26.Qe1∓ -0.74/23 is a better defense.]
26...Rf4?? -0.39/23 Now after Qh5 white is finally not completely lost.
[26...h5! Only move! White cannot take the pawn as after 27.Qxh5? -#4/10 *(27.Qe2 Bxc1-+* White is down a rook for a bishop, obviously it's losing for white.*; 27.Qe2-+* -1.83/24 *)* 27...Be3+-+ and it's mate in a few moves.]
[26...h5!-+ -1.82/25 27.Qe2 Bxc1 28.Bxc1 Qc7]
27.Qh5 If any other queen move was made white is lost because at all times ... Be3+ is gonna be a mating threat black has. **27...Rf6** 0.47/24 And after this white has the advantage after Re1! Wards off Qh5-g6+
[27...Rf2 This is what black should've went for. Be3 is now a huge threat and after 28.Re1 -1.20/26 Prevents Bg5-e3 *(*White should play *28.Qg6+∓* -0.48/22 *Kh8 29.Re1 Rxb2 30.Qe8+ Kg7 31.Qg6+ Kh8 32.Qe8+ Kg7 33.Qg6+ Kh8)* 28...Qf8!∓ (-> ...Rf2xf1+) 29.Bc1 Bc1xg5 would now be deadly. Rxg2+! black would've sacrificed the rook for a huge attack. 30.Kxg2 Qf2+ 31.Kh3 Qxe1 32.Qe8+ -0.43/25 *(32.Qg6+∓* -1.16/26 *Kf8 33.Bb5)* 32...Kg7∓ 33.Qd7+ Kf8 34.Bb5 Threatening mate with Ne5-g6+. Qh4+ 35.Kg2 Qf2+ 36.Kh1 Nf7∓ and black is better. If Qe8+, black will hide behind his knight and white's king is just too vulnerable.]
[27...Rf2∓ -0.52/25 28.Qe8+ *(28.Qg6+ Kh8=*) 28...Kg7 29.Qg6+ Kh8 30.Qe8+ *(30.Rc8? Qf8-+)* 30...Rf8 31.Qxf8+ Decoy Qxf8 32.Ng6+ Kg7 33.Nxf8 Be3+ 34.Kh1 Nf2+ 35.Kg1 Nd3+ 36.Kh1 Bxc1]
28.Re1↑ Threatens to win with Bf1-d3. White is pushing. Chess con chili.
28...Qf8 29.Bd3?? -#5/12
[29.Bc1! White has to get rid of black's dangerous bishop. Hoping for Bf1-d3. Rf5 ...Bg5-e3+! is the strong threat. 30.Qg6+ Kh8 And now ... Rf5xe5! would win. 31.Bxg5 Rxg5 0.95/22 *(31...hxg5± 0.42/25 32.Qh5+*

Kg8)

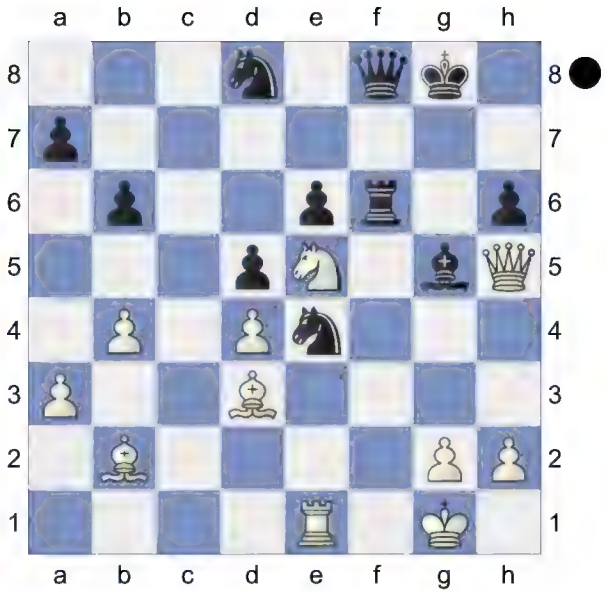


The reason why I played these few moves is to show you something spectacular. 32.Rxe4!± AND EVERYTHING IS HANGING! dxe4! Only move, but now *(32...Rxg6??* 7.26/22 32...d5xe4 0.89 THIS IS LOSING AS THERE IS *33.Nxg6+ Kg7 34.Nxf8 dxe4 35.Nd7+-* and white is up a piece.*)* 33.Qxg5!! SACRIFICING THE QUEEN!! hxg5 34.Ng6+ Kg7 35.Nxf8 Kxf8± and white is now better because he has a bishop against the knight.]

[29.Nd7? leads to mate. Be3+ 30.Kh1 Rxf1+ 31.Rxf1 Qxf1#]

[29.Bc1± 0.53/23]

(Diagram)

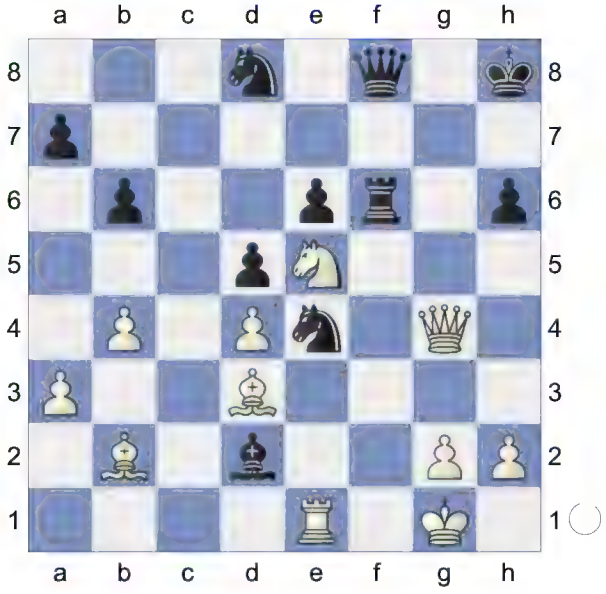


This is a messy game, ...Be3+ is now mate in a few moves. **29...Bd2??** 1.88/23 Black misses the mate and is now losing to Qg4+

[29...Be3+! -#5/12 mates 30.Kh1 Nf2+ 31.Kg1 Nxd3+ Discovered Attack (Check) 32.Kh1 Rf1+ Back Rank 33.Rxf1 Qxf1#]

30.Qg4+ Kh8? 5.78/24

[30...Qg7 1.65/23 31.Qxg7+ Kxg7]

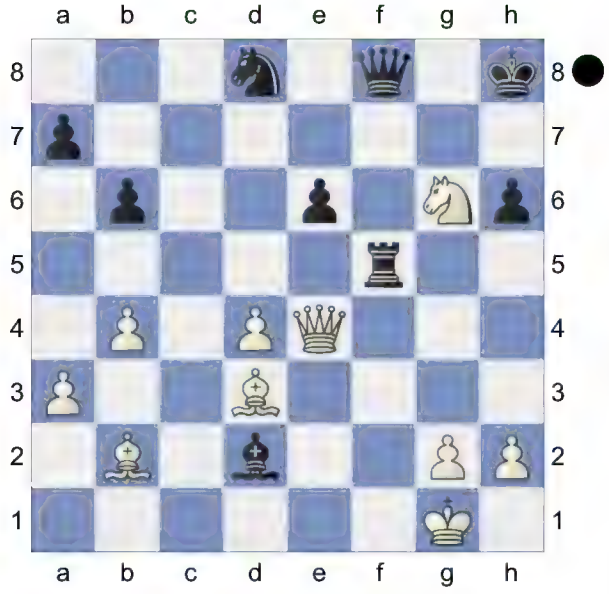


31.Rxe4!!+- And to a rook sacrifice. White is clearly winning. **31...dxe4**

32.Qxe4 Rf5

[32...Qg7 This would've made the game longer, but after 33.d5!+- black stands no chances against white's strong bishops.]

33.Ng6+



And black resigned as he is gonna be down a queen. Very messy as you can see, but overall last blunder is the one that decides the game of chess. Overall, Nf6 isn't a good move and Onischuk did prove it from the opening, getting a huge advantage there. It's in the end blitz and games of blitz can be this messy obviously, but I think it's a really fun game to see. Quite a comeback for White.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/ Black=0.69

1-0

52 **C01**

□ **Onischuk,V** **2619**

■ **Grabinsky,Aaron** **2371**

Titled Tue 12th Dec Late blitz (4)

[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

Here is another interesting game. Aaron, Onischuk's opponent, isn't a person who's gonna make chess his main thing in life, but he is still a pretty strong player.

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 Nc6

And Aaron chose this line. It's Blitz again, a lot of Titled Tuesday games are here since it's 2021 and also later it's because of the war in Ukraine making it difficult for Onischuk to travel. This is another side line that's slowly getting popularity. I've went over it in my study which again, you can check out here: https://lichess.org/study/B0VjjEXy Yes, I might be annoying with that, but really all the main stuff is there so go check it out. Point is that black decides not to go for c5, but instead go for the bishop on d3 and then play the game a bit differently than the usual French Defense. **4.Nf3**

[4.c3 e5 5.Nf3 dxe4 6.Bxe4 exd4 7.0-0 Nf6 8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.Re1+ Be7 10.Nxd4 c5 11.Qa4+ Bd7 12.Nc6 0-0 13.Nxe7+ Qxe7 14.Rxe7 Bxa4 15.Na3 Nd5 16.Re1 Rad8 17.h3 Rfe8 18.Bd2 Nb4 ½-½ (43) Delchev,A (2571)-Ramirez,A (2585) Paleochora 141/91 2019]

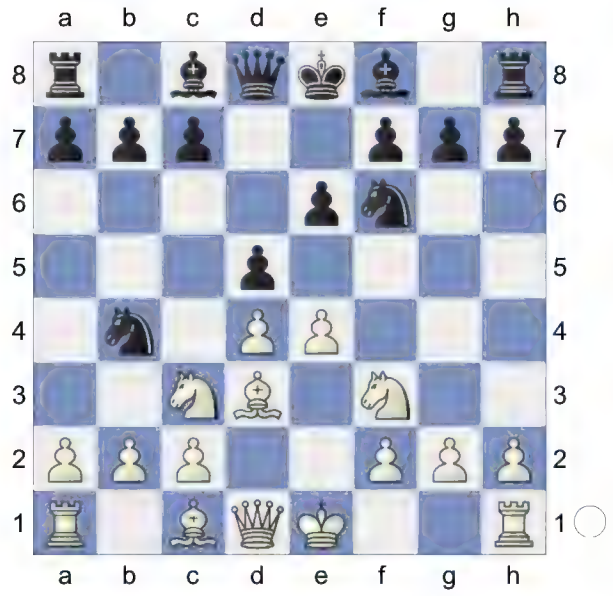
4...Nb4 5.Nc3

[5.0-0 Nxd3 6.Qxd3 Nf6 7.exd5 Qxd5 8.Nc3 Qh5 9.Bf4 c6 10.Rae1 Be7 11.Re5 Qg6 12.Qe2 h6 13.Re3 Qf5 14.Be5 0-0 15.Re1 b6 16.Nd2

Qxc2 17.Rg3 Ba6 18.Qe3 Kh7 19.Nde4 Ne8 0-1 (30) Zavgorodniy,S (2423)-Oganian,M (2437) Titled Tue 5th Apr Early blitz 2022 (5)]

5...Nf6N

[5...Nxd3+ 6.Qxd3 dxe4 7.Nxe4 Nf6 8.Bg5 Be7 9.Nxf6+ Bxf6 10.Bxf6 Qxf6 11.Qb5+ c6 12.Qc5 Bd7 13.0-0-0 B6-B6]



6.Bg5

[6.e5 Already here I think that this would've been much better where after Nxd3+ 7.Qxd3 Ng8± black would've developed the knight to e7 later in the game and then maybe put it to c6 or g6 depending on the position. White is a bit better due to the stronger center, but this is the best way to play for black.]

6...Be7 7.0-0?! This time it was dumb not to play e5.

[7.e5 Nxd3+ 8.Qxd3 Ng8 Now this makes even more sense as after 9.Bxe7 Nxe7± black gets his knight developed again but this time he isn't blocking the bishop.]

7...Nxd3 8.cxd3 Onischuk wants to strengthen the center instead of taking with the queen which is interesting. It's not wrong at all and Onischuk has a fair point. The position is equal.

[8.Qxd3 This of course seems much more natural, but I don't think it's better as after Nxe4 9.Bxe7 Qxe7 10.Nxe4 dxe4 11.Qxe4 0-0± black's looking to play f6-e5 and get rid of white's center and then look for play down the center files with his rooks.]

8...c6?! I don't think this move is good. I don't really understand what's the point either, this just makes e5 stronger. I guess Aaron wanted some kind of a Slav Defense position, but that's not really good for him here.

[8...Nxe4 This is probably the best move. It just wins a pawn. 9.Bxe7 Nxc3 10.Bxd8 Nxd1 11.Bxc7 Nxb2= And here black is up a pawn.]

9.h3?! Onischuk doesn't play e5 though for some reason. So already here in the opening, we can see it's a bit messy. Nxe4 is possible again.

[9.e5 Nd7 I'm guessing Onischuk missed that he can play 10.Qd2± here and activate his queen when black takes the bishop.]

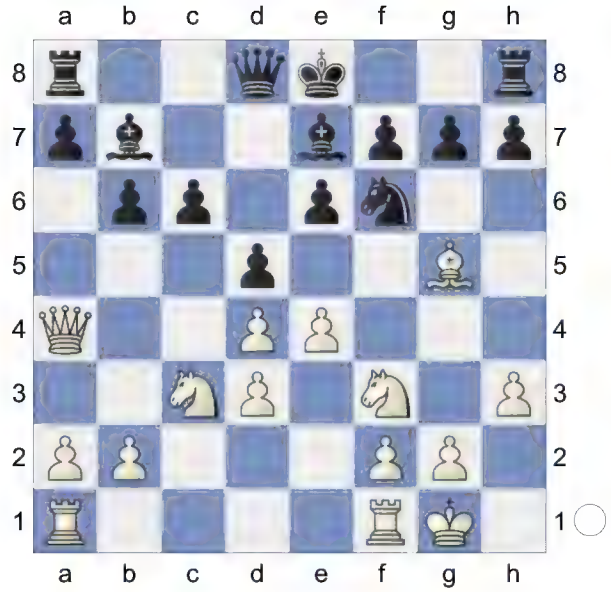
9...b6?! Black doesn't play Nxe4. To be honest, this feels like an 800 opening phase with both players having blind spots, except that these blind spots are top level stuff since they're hard to find especially in a Blitz game.

[9...Nxe4 10.Nxe4 dxe4 11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.dxe4 0-0± White's center is bigger, but black's gonna take care of that with Rd8 trying to pressure it.]

10.Qa4?! And white misses e5 again.

[10.e5 Nd7 11.Qd2± Again, this is what white should've went for.]

10...Bb7



Here is the Slav set-up. **11.Bxf6** It looks weird to trade like this and allow black to target the d4 pawn, but overall white's bishop doesn't have a future because of how closed the position is. Overall rule is that in closed positions knights are better as they can maneuver, while in open positions bishops are better since they are much faster then knights.

[11.e5 Now e5 isn't as strong because there is no Qd2. Nd7 12.Bxe7 Qxe7=]

11...Bxf6 **12.exd5!** It might not make sense to play this, but it's good to open up the e-file. Drawback though is that now white is left with doubled isolated pawns on the d-file, but black cannot exploit that currently. **12...exd5** **13.Rfe1+?!** This is the wrong rook though. Engine wants to play f4 later and the rook on f1 would be a good support for that.

[13.Rae1+ Engine really wants this rook to come into play like this rather then the f1 rook. After Kf8 *(13...Be7?? 1.58/19* 13...Ke8-f8 0.02 This is a huge blunder. *14.Nxd5!* As white can sacrifice the horse, where after *Qxd5 15.Re5! Qd6 16.Rfe1±* black is in a lot of trouble.*)* 14.Ne5 Qd6 15.f4 h5 stopping g4 16.b4 and white's gonna go b5.]

13...Kf8 **14.Ne5** **Qd6?!** Apparently, it's inaccurate to protect the c6 pawn. Really funny, engine really is a scumbag.

[14...g6! Engine just wants this. After 15.Nxc6 Bxc6! 16.Qxc6 Bxd4= it's equal because black got 1 of the 2 isolated pawns, structure is equal but if you look at the pawns, black's bishop is very active.]

15.Re3 Trying to double up and go Rf3.

15...g6?

[15...Kg8 Engine, again a juge scumbag, wants to play this. Then follow up it with h5, e.g. 16.f4 h5 17.Ne2 and then a5 and this is just pure craziness. It looks crazy to play a5 because of 18.Qb3 but after Bd8 19.Re1 Bc8 it's apparently equal. Tell me this doesn't look like an 800 is playing as black, but it's equal. Black simply has bishops and white has horses, that's the only reason. Sounds dumb, but it's truthful. An even dumber looking thing is that engine wants Bd7. 20.Rc1 Bd7= And now the queen side structure is protected and white just has doubled isolated pawns and horses, no bishops, while black has a good structure and bishops. Yes, most of black's pieces are on the 8th rank and the king is blocking the rook, but this is what the engine wants. If you ever see someone playing like this, you can click the report button because this it's not human like to play like this. Even crazier thing, engine says that

only move for equality for white is Qa3.]

Now this is a mistake because of only 1 move. Point of this move is that black wants to put the king in safety on g7. The correct move isn't human at all though, so this is pretty understandable.

16.Rae1? Which Onischuk misses and is actually now worse.

[16.Qb3 This now gives white advantage. The threat is Ne4. After Bd8 17.Rf3 f5! only move to get rid of the weakness, the dirty move here is still 18.Ne4 and black cannot take the horse. After Qc7 19.Ng3± and white is threatening to take on f5 and destroy black. Black must play and the engine cannot even realize how strong this is until some higher depth.]

16...Kg7 The reason why now Aaron is better is because not only does he have bishops against knights and also, black's king is now perfectly safe, his queen side structure is very solid and white has isolated pawns. White's best asset is this e5 knight, but it's not good enough since now black is able to put a rook in the center and get the advantage due to white's problems, especially because black has no problems at all.

17.Ne2 -0.63/21

[17.Qd1= -0.26/17]

17...Bg5? Or Aaron can throw the advantage into the water. This just walks into f4 and overall makes no sense.

[17...Rhe8∓ I don't know what was wrong with this. Black is able to play Bg5 only if f4 isn't possible, otherwise he should double up on the e-file.]

18.f4! Bh4 19.g3 Bf6 20.f5? Allthough Onischuk quickly makes a mistake. Bc8 gives black a draw or maybe even a better position now.

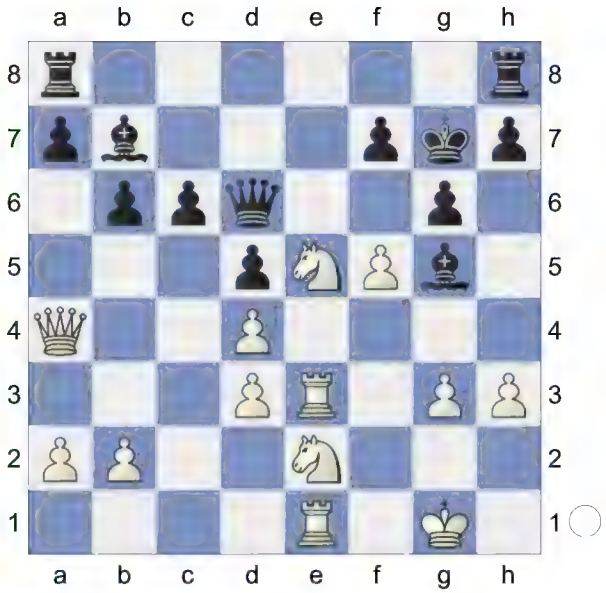
20...Bg5?

[20...Bc8 21.Rf3 Bxf5 22.g4 Be6! This is what the engine wants, where after 23.Nxf7 Bxf7 24.Ref1 this might look scary, but after Bh4! which looks extremely idiotic 25.Rxf7+

A) 25...Kg8 0.13/22 25...Kg7-h6 -0.34 If this, then after 26.Qa6! trying to go Qb7 (which is also lunacris, every normal person takes the a7 pawn and says that the queen side is falling appart) *(26.Rxa7?* Every normal person plays this, but after *Re8! 27.Nf4 Bg5! 28.Qa6! Rb8!* it's apparently equal. I'm not gonna try to explain this engine stuff because I've got no idea what's going on. White is up a pawn, but white still has doubled isolated pawn, that's all I know and I guess that's why it's equal. Both kings are weak and both players have a lot of activity, allthough to me it feels like white is more active since black's rook is stuck on h8

and cannot move because the king is cut off. I don't know what to think, it's extremely complicated to play this.) 26...Qb8 0.96/22 protecting everything (*26...Be7=* -0.01/22) 27.Qb7!± anyways forcing the queen trade as Rg8 is mate Qxb7! 28.Rxb7 and here the only move that keeps black in the game is Re8! as now Rff7 isn't possible because the knight is hanging (*28...Rf8??* 2.86/23 28...Ra8-e8 0.49 If black tried something like this, after *29.Rxf8+ Kxf8* white doesn't take the pawn, nah. *30.Nf4!*+- and Ne6 is unstoppable and white is simply winning all the pawns much faster then black because the rook is blocked in by the damn king.) 29.Nf4 Re7 30.Rxe7 Bxe7± and now white is slightly better apparently because of black's extremely passive rook, but black is still in the game because of white's doubled isolated pawns and because he has a bishop against the knight.;

B) 25...Kh6! and now top engine move is 26.Kh1!? where white wants to play Ng1 to protect the h3 pawn and to at some point go to f3. Rhe8 27.Ng1 Re7! Doubling up on the e-file. 28.Qd1 This is looking for Qd2+. Rae8 29.Qd2+! Bg5 30.Qf2 Rxf7 31.Qxf7 Qe7 Here, I'm not even kidding, best move is 32.Kg2 and the point is that you're just waiting. Nobody can make progress. If Be3 33.Ne2 protecting the d4 pawn. Bg5 34.Ng1= -0.33/21 and it's a draw. (*34.Qxe7=* 0.21/19 *Rxe7 35.Ng1*)]



This isn't good though. Now, yes, f4 isn't possible anymore, but it's bad after Rf3 because there is h4 and all of a sudden, this still backfires. **21.Rf3 f6 22.Nf4?** -1.06/21 Onischuk doesn't play h4 though for some reason, don't know why.

22...Bxf4 -0.54/22

[22...fxe5?? 3.55/22 22...Bg5xf4 -1.04 This here would've been a blunder as after 23.Ne6+ Kg8 24.Nxg5 black must take on f5 since f6 is a threat. gxf5 25.Rxf5+- White is just getting in and black cannot defend this attack.]

[22...fxe5? 23.Ne6+ (*23.dxe5 Qc5+ 24.d4 Qa5±*) 23...Kg8 24.Nxg5 gxf5 25.Rxf5+- (*25.dxe5 Qg6+-*)]

[22...Rhe8∓ -1.06/21 23.Ne6+ Rxe6 24.fxe6 Qxe6 Pin]

23.gxf4 -0.95/20

[23.Rxf4∓ -0.54/22 is superior. Rhe8 Pin 24.fxg6 hxg6 (*24...fxe5 25.dxe5 Rxe5 26.Qd4∓*) 25.Ref1]

23...b5? -0.39/21 Aaron gives up the advantage though. This just forces white to c2 and makes what we saw in the variation faster for white.

[23...Rae8 What black should

obviously do is stack up on the e-file. After e.g. 24.Rfe3!! -1.36/21 (White should try *24.Ref1* -0.86/19) 24...Qc7 (*24...fxe5??* -0.01/20 24...Qd6-c7 -1.38 Black can never take this as there is *25.dxe5! Qd8 26.f6+!±* white is just getting in with 2 past pawns and is just better despite being down a piece. Also, every piece black has except for the bishop is on the 8th rank.) 25.Ng4 Rxe3 26.Rxe3 And now Qa4-b4 would win. h5 -0.75/20 black is better since he defended this very good and white's structure is awful. (⌓*26...gxf5* -1.45/20 *27.Qb4 Kg6*)]

[23...fxe5?? 1.09/19 23...Ra8-e8 -0.99 Black still cannot take the knight. After 24.fxe5 Qc7 25.f6+ Kf8 26.Qb4+! c5 27.Qd2 trying to get in h6 28.e6+- 0.42/19 these are just connected past pawns that cannot be stopped and black can just resign. (*28.f7±* 0.83/19)]

[23...fxe5 24.fxe5 Qc7 25.f6+ Kf8 26.f7±]

[23...Rae8∓ -0.95/20 White must now prevent ...a7-a5. 24.Rg3 (*24.Qxa7? Qc7-+* Pin) 24...Bc8 (*24...fxe5 25.dxe5 Qc5+ 26.d4∓*) 25.Qxa7+ Qe7 26.Qxe7+ Rxe7 Pin]

24.Qc2∓ Bc8? 0.47/22 And then probably in time trouble at this point, Aaron blundered a pawn.

[24...Rae8 Again, you ahve to do this. After 25.Rfe3!! Qc7 -0.01/21 (*25...fxe5?* Still not possible *26.fxe5 Qf8* here this instead of Qd8 because after *27.f6+ Kg8! 28.Rf3 Qf7! 29.e6 Rxe6 30.Rxe6 Qxe6 31.Qf2* it's a draw, where in the other position after 27. f6+ queen was on a4 and f5 would've been crushing.; *25...fxe5∓* -0.43/23 *26.fxe5 Qd8 27.f6+ Kg8*) 26.Ng4!= Rxe3 27.Rxe3 Rf8! 28.fxg6 (*28.Qe2!? Rf7□ 29.fxg6 hxg6 30.Qf2=*) 28...hxg6= the position is equal.]

[24...Rhf8∓ -0.39/21 25.Nxg6 hxg6]

25.fxg6?! 0.09/20 This isn't as good, you don't want to open up the rook so that it can take on h3.

[25.Nxc6! This would've been much better. After Bxf5 26.Re7+ Kh6! 27.Qc5 Qxc5 28.dxc5± white's pawn structure becomes a bit better and black's pawn structure is a bit worse then before now. White is better due to having a past pawn and more active pieces.]

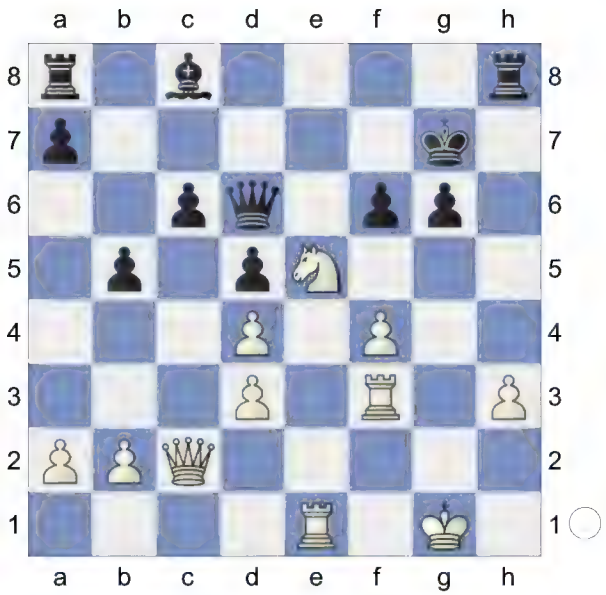
[25.Rfe3± 0.47/22 deserves consideration.]

25...hxg6=

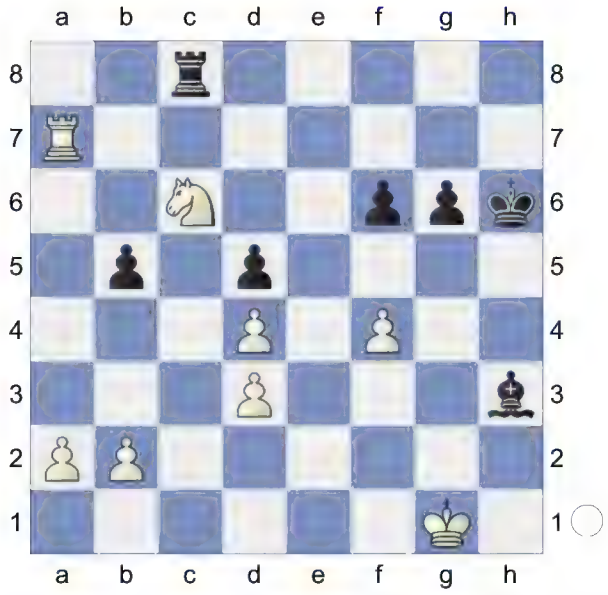
[25...fxe5? 1.10/17 25...h7xg6 0.17 This would've again been bad as after 26.fxe5 Qxg6+ 27.Kh2 only move for black is to sacrifice the bishop with Bg4. If Qe8?? 16.06/22 (*27...Bg4±* 0.90/22 *28.hxg4 Raf8*) 28.Rg1++- Kh6 29.Qc1+ and black gets mated on the next move. Kh5 30.Qg5#]

[25...fxe5 26.fxe5 Qxg6+ 27.Kh2+-]

(Diagram)

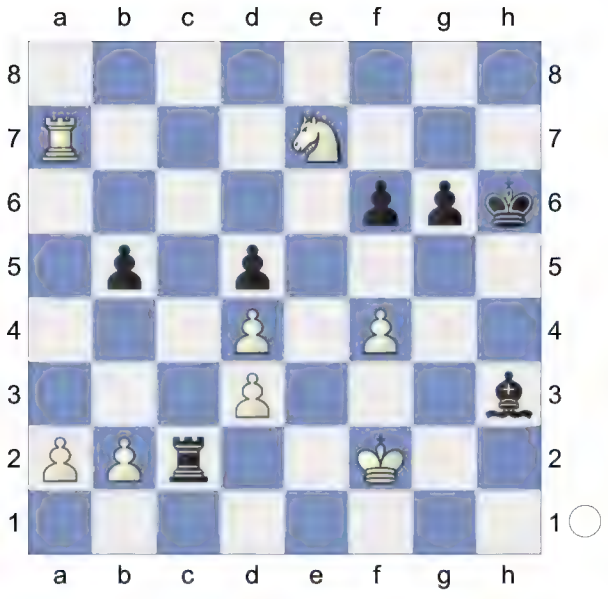


26.Qxc6
[26.Nxc6 keeps more tension. Rxh3 27.Re7+ Kf8 28.Rxh3 Bxh3 29.Rh7]
26...Qxc6 27.Nxc6 Rxh3 0.53/23
[27...Bxh3= 0.01/23 28.Re7+ Kf8]
28.Re7+± Kh6?! Apparently this isn't good and black should've went Kf8.
[28...Kf8 Overall, what you've learned from this game is that black should stay at the back rank. Things engine wants are hillarious, to be honest I'm not even gonna try to explain this. 29.Rxh3! Bxh3 30.Rb7 Rc8 31.Nb4! Rc1+ 32.Kh2 Bf1 this position would've been really complicated, white is a bit better but it's not easy to prove that since the knight cannot move currently. Both sides have a bunch of weaknesses as well.]
29.Rxh3+
[29.Rxa7 Rxf3 30.Rxa8 Bb7-+]
29...Bxh3 30.Rxa7?? -0.47/26 Endgame. This is a blunder though after Rxa7. KRB-KRN
[30.Nb4 This would've been better. g5! 31.fxg5+ fxg5 32.Nxd5±]
[White should play 30.Kf2± 0.50/22]
30...Rc8?? 1.11/24
[30...Rxa7! 31.Nxa7 Bd7-+ Now the knight is stuck on the edge of the board and what you can do is litteraly walk over to that knight and take it.]
[30...Rxa7∓ -0.47/26 stays ahead. 31.Nxa7 Bd7]



Aaron didn't see the win sadly. Probably under time trouble. **31.Ne7?** 0.09/25 But this is a mistake, he is going the wrong way and now Rc2 is a draw. White is more active.
[31.Nb4!± This is winning because it stops Rc2.]
[31.Nb4± 1.11/24]
31...Rc1+?? 1.22/22 But Aaron blunders again and this is losing.
[31...Rc2= This is a draw because all the pawns will fall of the board.]
[31...Rc2= 0.09/25 remains equal.]
32.Kh2?! This is a bit of an inaccuracy though, allthough it's logical to attack the bishop here.
[32.Kf2! Apparently this was better as after. Intending Ne7-g8+ and mate. Rc2+

(Diagram)



33.Kg3! Be6 Repels Ne7-g8+ 34.Ra6 Bf7 35.Rxf6 Kg7 36.Rb6 Rxb2 2.31/23 *(36...Rd2* 1.87/22 is a better defense. *37.f5 Rxd3+ 38.Kh4 Rxd4+ 39.Kg5 Rd1)* 37.Nc6 Rxa2 38.Ne5!+- the king on g3 is safe.]

32...Be6 Dodges Ne7-g8+ **33.Ra6**

[33.Kg3?! Kg3 is now a bit too slow because of. Ra7-a6 would now be deadly. Rd1 attacking the d6 pawn. 34.Ra6 Rxd3+ 35.Kf2 Bf7 36.Rxf6 Kg7 37.Rb6 Hoping for f4-f5. Rxd4= And now this is a draw.]

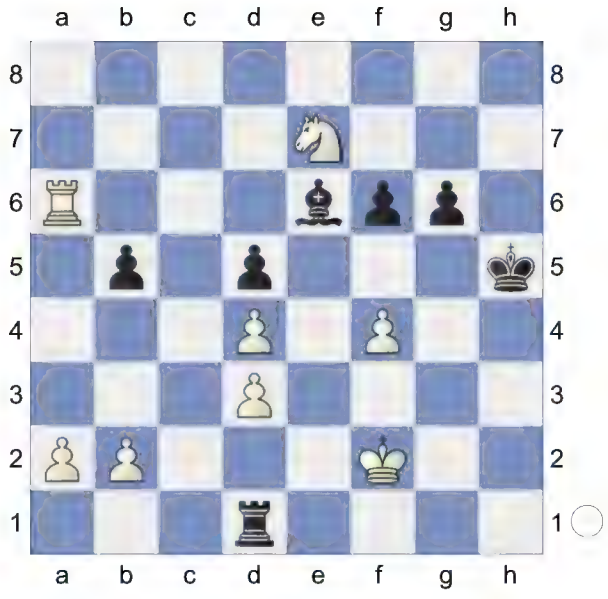
33...Re1 34.Kg3 Kh5?? 6.84/22 This blunders the bishop though. Loses the game.

[34...Bf7!± This is the only move to save the bishop with ...Re3+ coming.]

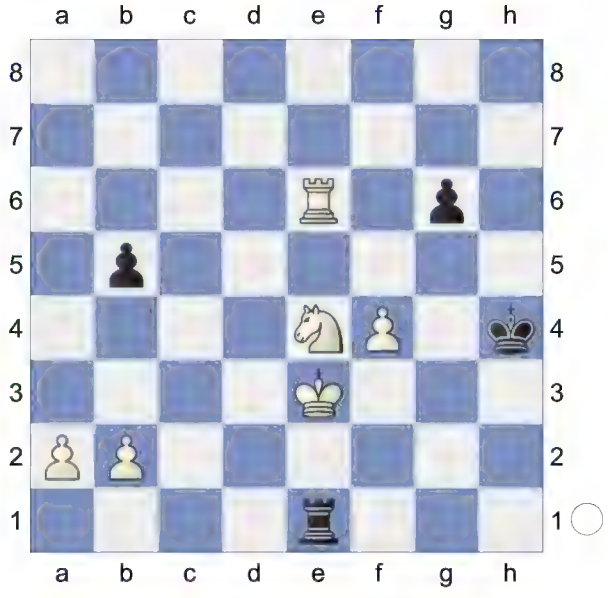
[34...Bf7± 0.69/24 35.Nc6 Rg1+ 36.Kf2 Rd1]

35.Kf2+- Deflection **35...Rd1**

(Diagram)



36.Rxe6 Rxd3 37.Nxd5 Rxd4 38.Nxf6+ KRN-KR **38...Kh4 39.Ke3 Rd1 40.Ne4 Re1+**



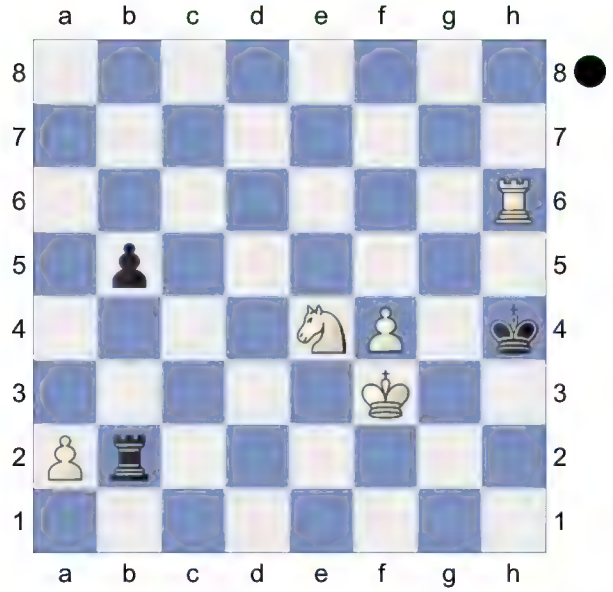
41.Kf3 Rb1 42.Rxg6 17.30/24

[⌓42.Re7 #17/25 Rf1+ 43.Nf2 Rxf2+ 44.Kxf2 Kg4 45.Ke3 g5 46.Rg7 *(46.fxg5 Kxg5 47.Re5+ Kg6 48.Rxb5 Kg7 49.a4 Kf7 50.a5 Ke7)* 46...Kf5 47.Rxg5+ *(47.fxg5 Ke5 48.Rf7 Kd5 49.g6 Ke6 50.Ke4 b4 51.b3 Kd6 52.g7 Ke6 53.g8Q Kd6 54.Qg6+ Kc5 55.Rf5#)* 47...Kf6 48.Rxb5]

42...Rxb2?? This simply blunders a mate.

[42...Kh5 43.f5 White threatens Rg6-g5+ and mate. Rf1++- This is the only way for black to try and survive, but black will lose the game anyways since the pawn on f5 is unstoppable and there are constant mate threats against the black's king.]

43.Rh6#



This game wasn't clear at all. It's a Blitz game at the end of the day and those are always messy, but we can definitely say that Onischuk got a better position out of the opening with a very interesting idea of damaging his pawn structure.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.82

1-0

53 **C01**

□ **Onischuk,V** **2620**

■ **Stoleriu,George** **2419**

Titled 21. Dec (3) 21.12.2021

[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

We're gonna skip a few boring wins against extremely weak players again. This game is another fun one though. Now, yes, George is a FM, but this one is a strong one. 2400 is a very good rating for an FM player, this guy is also young, at this point (2021) he's 19 so he is a young but solid player.

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

6.Ne2 Nc6 Main line. **7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5** The position is equal. **9.Nc3 Bb4** We saw this move in this study already if you remember, it was played by GM Subramanian Arun Prasad.

[9...Be7 simplifies 10.Qe2 Bd7 11.0-0 Nxf3+ 12.Qxf3 0-0]

10.Ndb5 Bd7

(Diagram)

Threatens to win with ...Ne5xf3+. **11.a3 Bxc3+ 12.Nxc3 Nxf3+ 13.Qxf3 Bc6** But in this game, George played the correct move. If you remember, Prasad played Qc7.

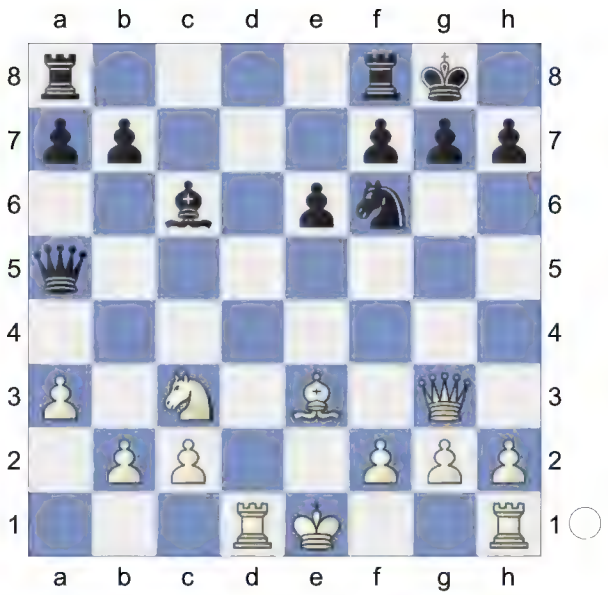
[13...Qc7 14.Qg3 Qxg3 15.hxg3 Bc6 16.f3 a6 17.0-0-0 Nd5 18.Nxd5 Bxd5 19.b3 b5 20.Rh4 f6 21.a4 Kf7 22.Kb2 h6 23.Rb4 Bc6 24.Rd6 Rhc8 25.a5 Rab8 26.Bb6 Ke7 27.Rd2 Bd5 28.Rdd4 1-0 (47) Onischuk,V (2629)-Arun Prasad,S (2502) Cappelle op 31st 2015 (2)]

14.Qg3 0-0 15.Rd1N

[15.f3 Nd5 16.Rd1 Qf6 17.Nxd5 Bxd5 18.Rd4 6. 3...dxe4 Part II-Bb4]

15...Qa5

(Diagram)



Preparing Ne4. Hoping for ...Nf6-e4.

16.0-0 Onischuk gets away from the pin.

[16.f3 Onischuk could've played this as well to stop Ne4 and also block bishop's view on g2. Qf5 17.Rd2 Nd5 18.Nxd5 Bxd5 19.0-0= This is something that could've happened, position is pretty balanced. Black now would like to play h5 and white wants to trade the queens to get rid of the pressure black has on white's queen side.]

16...Rfd8 17.Bd4 Qf5 18.Rd3? -0.72/26 This isn't a good move. Now after Nh5 black is gonna be better.

[18.Qd3= Again, white really wants a queen trade.]

[18.h3= -0.08/25 remains equal.]

18...Rd7? -0.03/23 But George misses it and plays Rd7 instead to double up on the open d-file.

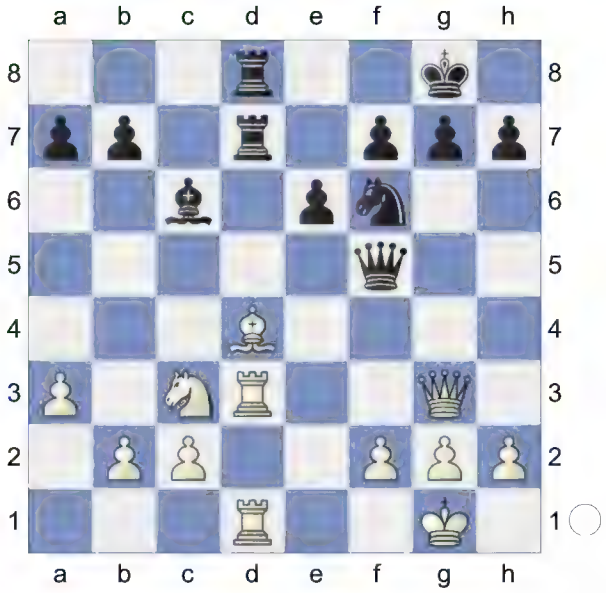
[18...Nh5! This is now better for black as white has only 1 queen move not to lose immediately and that queen move doesn't really help white much.

A) 19.Qh3?? -3.63/26 19.Qg3-e5 -0.70 This is completely losing after Qxh3 20.Rxh3 Nf4-+

And now white has to either give up a rook for a minor piece or give up a bishop for nothing.;
B) 19.Qh4?? This is losing as after Nf4 20.Rd2 Bxg2 21.Re1 f6 threatening e5. 22.Be3 Ng6 23.Qg3 Rxd2 24.Bxd2 Bc6∓ for now black is only up a pawn, but white's king is extremely vulnerable and black will win the pawn on c2.;
C) 19.Qe3?? This is also losing after Nf4! 20.Rd2 -3.70/26 *(⌓20.Ne2 -2.46/25 Nxe2+ 21.Qxe2)* 20...e5!-+ 21.Bc5? -12.45/25 *(21.Qxe5 -3.60/22 Qxe5 22.Bxe5 Nh3+ 23.gxh3 Rxd2 24.Na2)* 21...Rxd2-+ 22.Qxd2 Nh3+-+ and white's getting mated.;
D) 19.Qe5! Bxg2!! Now black can sacrifice the bishop. After 20.Kxg2 Qe5xf5 would now be deadly. Nf4+ 21.Kg1 Qxe5 22.Bxe5 Nxd3 23.cxd3∓ black is gonna be better as he is gonna be up a pawn and even though white has 2 pieces for a rook (which is usually better), this is one of those times it's not as good due to white's extremely vulnerable king and awful pawn structure.]
[18...Nh5∓ -0.72/26 19.Qe5 Qxe5 20.Bxe5 Rxd3 21.cxd3 a5]

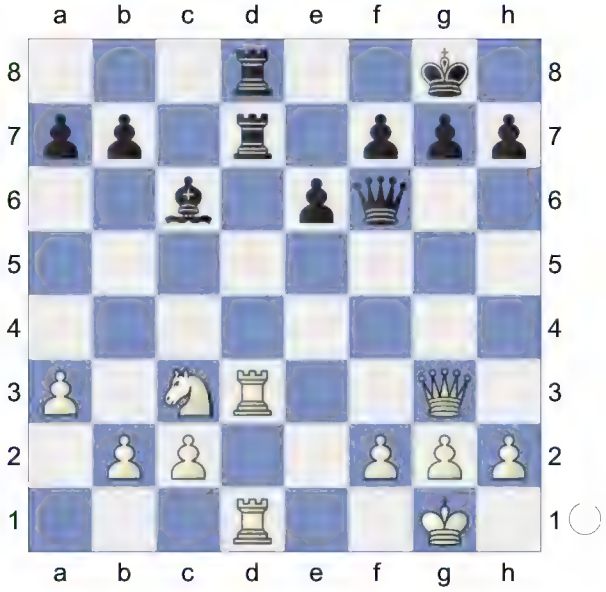
19.Rfd1 Strongly threatening Bd4xf6.
[19.Bxf6!? Qxf6 20.Ne4=]

19...Rad8?? 3.61/24
[19...Nh5 This is still a good move, allthough after 20.Qe5! black isn't better because there is no Bxg2 as white's structure here is fine. Yes, white's pawns would be separated, but king can protect them and white doesn't have the isolated pawn like he would've had a move ago. Qxe5 21.Bxe5 Rxd3 22.Rxd3=]
[19...Nh5= -0.30/25 and Black has nothing to worry. 20.Qe5 Qg6]



And then George blunders Bxf6. Now, it doesn't look like a blunder at first, but you'll see how brutally Onischuk punishes George. This costs Black the game. **20.Bxf6!+-**
[Not 20.Bxa7 h6±]

20...Qxf6



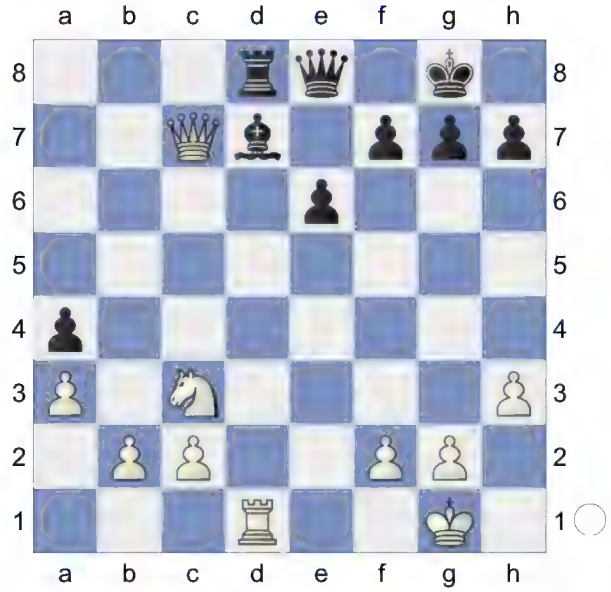
21.Rxd7 Bxd7
[21...Rxd7?? #4/10 21...Bc6xd7 3.45

This isn't any better then Bxd7. In fact, it's mate in 4 for white after 22.Qb8+ Rd8 23.Rxd8++-]

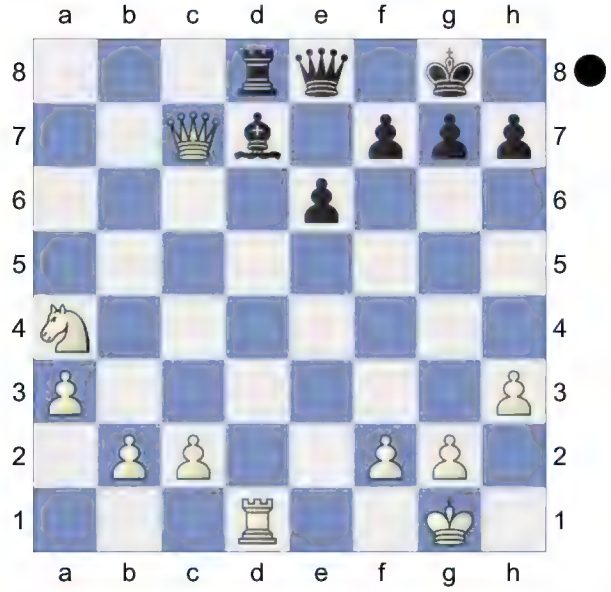
22.Qc7 The queen gets in and it's just over for George here. Prevents Bd7-c6.

22...Qe7 23.Qxb7 a5 24.h3 Qe8 25.Qc7 Black is weak on the dark squares **25...a4** 8.48/24

[⌓25...Qe7 4.71/22 26.Qxa5 f5]



26.Nxa4!



Black was gonna lose that pawn anyways. George resigned here as he is down 2 pawns and he is completely suffocated, none of his pieces can move. Also, Nb6 just wins black's bishop. 26... Kf8 doesn't save it as after 29. Nb6 Ke7 there is 30. Qd6+ and the king is pushed to f6 and isn't able to protect the bishop. Brutal. Pin.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.52

1-0

54 **C01**

□ **Onischuk,V** **2581**

■ **Rakhmanov,Alexander** **2602**

17. Master Open (7.3) 19.06.2013

[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

First game is against Aleksandr Rakhamnov in 'Inf 25/229 Liberzon, Vladimir M: 'Liberzon,V: 'Inf 25/229'" 2013, the first time Onischuk played this opening OTB (short for over the board). The thing is, Onischuk played this game at 93% accuracy which is extremely high considering he never showed this opening as part of his repertoire before.

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3

[3.Nc3 Before Schlechter French, Onischuk played something known as Paulsen Variation. A much more theoretical opening that he didn't actually play in a long time, since 2020. There are 2 main lines here.

A) 3...Nf6 The other main line is this which provokes white to play e5 and then black will try to poke at d4 with c5 since white cannot play c3 as his pawn doesn't have the force ability to choke his own knight. Two main options here for white. 4.e5

This is known as the Steinitz Variation where after *(4.Bg5* This is another variation and here black has 3 options, dxe4, Bb4 and Be7 so I won't go further than this, but it's known as the Burn Variation and it's a bit more complicated then Steinitz as it's not so straightforward.*)* 4...Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 we enter this position which I've played before as it can arise from the Caro-Kann Fantasy Variation which I main currently as an answer to Caro-Kann. Here black has 4 different answers, a6, cxd4, Be7 and Qb6 all of them of course giving different play. White here wants to develope his bishop to e2 and castle.;

B) 3...Bb4 This, which is Winawer Variation where after 4.e5 black plays c5 and white answers with 5.a3 "forcing" an exchange (Ba5 is not well treated by French Defense players). Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 And here black can play Qa5, Qc7, Nc6 or Ne7 so I'll stop with it, just to show where this goes.]

3...c5 This is one of the main lines of Schlechter French which is very popular, I've faced this much more then the other main line probably because it gives black a bit more dopamine then the other main line.

[3...dxe4 This is the other main line, we'll see this one as well later in the study so I won't go on to explaining it just yet.]

4.exd5 exd5

[4...Qxd5?! This isn't really a good move as it allows Nc3 but we'll see this one as well later in the study.]

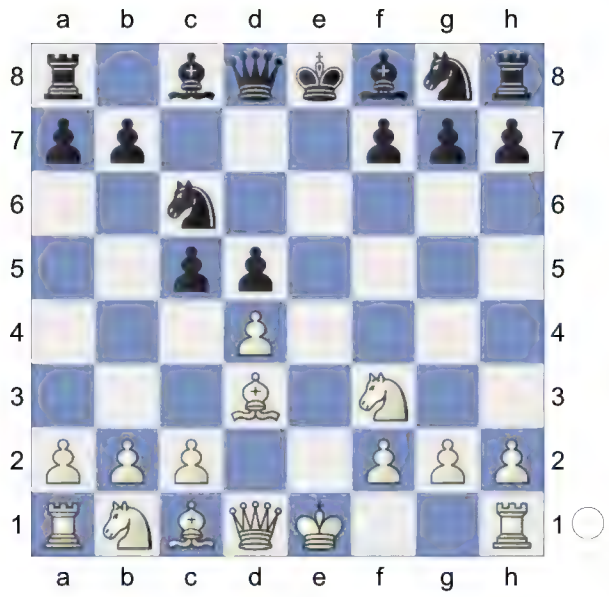
[4...cxd4?! This one we won't see though so I'll explain now why it's wrong. It's wrong because after 5.Bb5+ there is no c pawn for black to defend this, so after Bd7 white can actually play this in a style of Albin Countergambit with 6.dxe6!! and black cannot take the bishop here. fxe6 *(6...Bxb5?* this is a huge mistake, it's already +1.5 because after *7.exf7+!* black has to take, otherwise we get a horse for free *Kxf7 8.Qh5+!* and now this is an issue. *g6 9.Qxb5±* White is simply up a full pawn and black's king is also extremely vulnerable here, this is basically losing.*)* 7.c3 You can continously sacrifice the bishop for same reasons until black plays Nf6 which stops Qh5+ *(7...a6* or until black plays this, which isn't the best move but it exists. *8.Bxd7+ Nxd7 9.cxd4±)* 8.Bxd7+ Nbxd7 9.cxd4± and white is simply up a full pawn.]

5.Nf3 Nc6

[5...c4 Main continuation is this, we'll see this later as well.]

[5...Nf6 This is also pretty popular as it transposes to some lines in the Exchange French which black is comfortable with.]

(Diagram)



One of the main moves. **6.0-0**

[6.dxc5?! This isn't really good as it just allows black to develope quicker. Bxc5=]

[6.Qe2+ Be7 *(6...Qe7 7.Qxe7+ Bxe7 8.Nc3 Be6 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Nb5 Rc8 11.Bf4 Nf6 12.Bd6 Bb6 13.Ba3 Bc7 14.Nxc7+ Rxc7 15.0-0-0 a6 16.h3 b5 17.b3 b4 18.Bb2 a5 19.Rhe1 0-0 20.Ng5 Re7 21.Bxf6* 1-0 (33) Sicker,R (2200)-Vetter,U (1861) corr CiF-4er/0372 2023 *)* 7.dxc5 Nf6 8.h3 0-0 9.0-0 Bxc5 10.c3 Re8 11.Qc2 Qd6 12.Nbd2 Qg3 13.Bf5 Re2 14.Nd4 Nxd4 15.fxg3 Nxc2+ 16.Kh2 Bxf5 17.Rxf5 Nxa1 0-1 Tatai,S (2455)-Kortschnoj,V (2665) Beersheba 1978 (6)]

6...Bd6? This move isn't really good. The reason is that now, something Onischuk probably didn't miss but maybe didn't like at the time, c4!

[6...Nxd4? 1.24/21 6...c5xd4 0.13 This is a possible move, doesn't mean it's good. It's not really good as after 7.Nxd4 cxd4 8.Bb5+ Bd7 9.Re1+ Ne7 10.Bxd7+! Qxd7 11.Qxd4± white is choking black. Also, this knight is preventing black's DSB (short for dark-squared bishop) from developing.]

[6...cxd4 This is one of the more popular lines, after 7.Re1+ Be7 8.h3 controling the g4 square Nf6 9.Nbd2± white's gonna go to b3 and regain the pawn, so white's still in good shape here and is a bit better due to better development.]

7.Re1+N Overall what you want to do in Schlechter French is give this check just to speed up your development (now rook is on an open file and white got that with a tempo), that's probably why Onischuk played it here. In the end, at this time there is only 200 games played in this opening, so it's still being discovered.

[7.c4! The queen doesn't see d5 anymore. Best way for black to play is Nxd4 *(7...dxc4?* Taking this is bad as after *8.Bxc4 cxd4 9.Re1+ Nge7 10.Ng5!±* black is already in trouble with Qh5 on the way.*)* 8.Nxd4 cxd4 9.cxd5 Ne7 trying to get this pawn back, but after 10.Qa4+ Bd7 11.Qxd4 black isn't gonna get the pawn and is just down a full pawn. Also, black's pieces are awfully placed here and g7 is hanging, so after 0-0 12.Nc3± white is just up a pawn and developed better. No questions asked.]

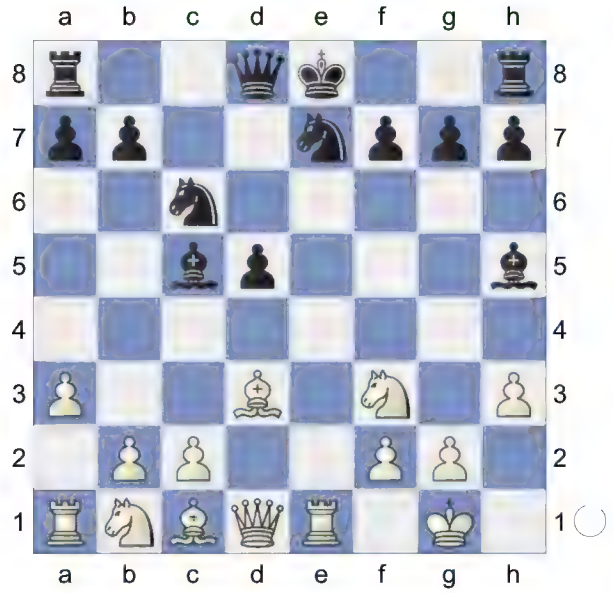
[7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.Nc3 Bg4 9.h3 Bh5 10.Re1+ Nge7 11.Bf4 h6 12.g4 Bg6 13.Nh4 0-0 14.Bg3 Qd7 15.a3 a6 16.Ne2 Bxd3 17.Qxd3 f5 18.Nf4 fxg4 19.Ne6 Ba7 20.Nxf8 Rxf8 21.hxg4 Qxg4 0-1 (27) Herzog,A (2400)-Tiller,B (2320) Zonal Randers Preliminaries A 1982 (1)]

7...Nge7 8.dxc5 White is slightly better.

8...Bxc5 9.a3 Obvious idea of b4 and maybe b5 after. **9...Bg4 10.h3**

[10.b4 You don't want to play this immediately as after Bd4! 11.c3 Bf6 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 0-0= black neutralized the position.]

10...Bh5



11.b4 Bb6

[11...Bd4 If this now, then there is 12.c3 Bxf3 *(12...Bf6??* 1.85/20 12...Bd4-b6 0.61 This is losing after *13.g4! Bg6* there is now *14.b5* and after *Na5 15.g5*+- the bishop is trapped. *)* 13.Qxf3 Bf6± as you can see, black now isn't castled because he was forced to first take the knight which means white has a full move more then he would've had if he played 10. b4]

12.Bb2?! 0.40/18 Not a lover of this move, black quickly equalized after this. Idea is to attack g7, but black was gonna castle anyways so it's not that good.

[12.b5! This is a bit better allthough it's a bit more scary to play Nd4 there is no pressure since white can play 13.g4± and white is gonna be a bit better. Understandable why Onischuk didn't go for this, overall it doesn't feel so safe to just push pawns in front of your king like this, but this is how he should've played.]

[12.b5± 0.80/20 Nd4 13.g4]

12...0-0± 13.Nbd2 Trying to go to b3.

13...Bg6 14.Nb3 Nf5 15.Qd2 Nh4

16.Nxh4 Qxh4 Here the position is equal. **17.Bxg6 hxg6** And then Rakhmanov plays this awful move, taking with a wrong pawn trying to follow principles of the game. I guess he forgot he is a GM now and doesn't have to do that. The reason why this is bad is that now f-file and the forced draw I've shown you in the variation isn't available as there is no Rf3.

[17...fxg6! This was much better as now everything is looking at f2, a weakness in white's position and white cannot play b5 here, he has to protect his weakness now. 18.Re2 b4-b5! would now be deadly. Rad8! An extemely important move. Now white never has Qxd5+ and cannot get away from the draw. 19.b5 This move is now possible. Allthough,

there is now a brilliant move that black has and the only move here which leads to a forced draw. *(19.Rd1!?)* 19...Rf3! 20.gxf3 One option for white which is an easier draw for black as there is *(20.bxc6* The other option for white which is a more complicated draw as black needs to find a brilliancy. *Rxh3!* And white has to take as Rh1 is mate. Also, here we see how important Rad8 was, Qxd5+ isn't possible anymore as if it was, after gxh3 and Qg3+ there would've been Qg2 and white would be winning, but here it isn't possible. *21.gxh3 Qg3+* And now we have the same repetition.*)* 20...Qg3+ white cannot take the queen as he is pinned. 21.Kf1 Qxh3+ Do not play Ke1 here, you'll get mated. 22.Kg1 Qg3+ And it's a draw by repetition.]

18.b5!

[18.Qxd5 Bxf2+ *(18...Qxf2+? 19.Kh1-+)* 19.Kf1 Bxe1 20.Rxe1 Rfe8-+]

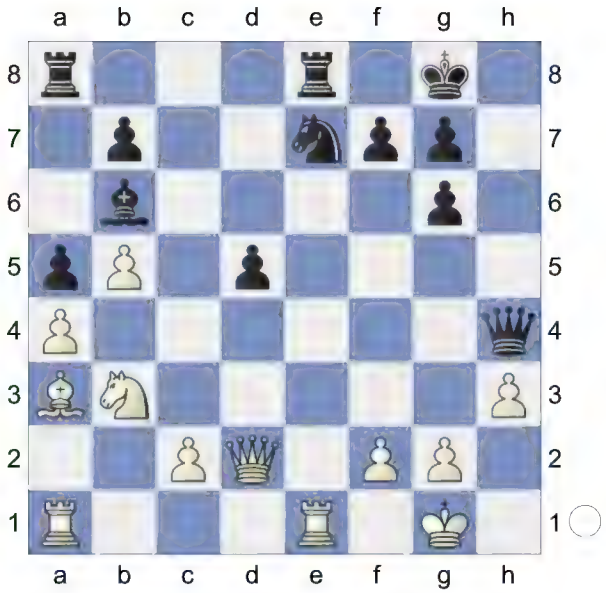
18...Ne7 19.a4 Here white is simply better due to his space on the queen side. **19...a5 20.Ba3?** 0.45/22 This is a mistake though as after Rfe8 black get's some chances.

[20.Bd4 This was better as after Bxd4 21.Nxd4± idea is to play Nf3 and maybe Ne5 at some point with Ra3 as well and white's pieces are much more active then black's pieces.]

[20.Bc3± 0.92/26]

20...Rfe8!

(Diagram)



21.Bc5 Bxc5 22.Nxc5 Qc4 23.Nb3 0.22/22 An ok move, but I personally think that Nd7 was better. White has more active pieces.

[23.Nd7 Idea is Nb6 fork. Qc7 Dodges Nd7-b6 24.Ne5± and here white's knight is nicely placed and forces f6 where it will go to f3 and maybe to d4 and it's gonna be much stronger then black's knight.]

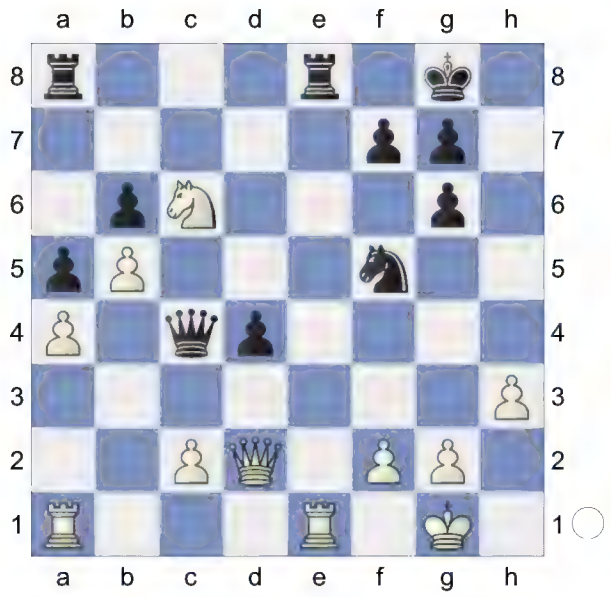
[23.Nxb7 Qc7 24.c4 Qxb7=]

[23.Nd7± 0.61/22 Qc7 24.Ne5]

23...b6!= 24.Nd4 Nf5 25.Nc6 This knight is gonna live here forever and here it's really annoying and really good and we'll see why in the game of course. **25...d4** 0.57/23

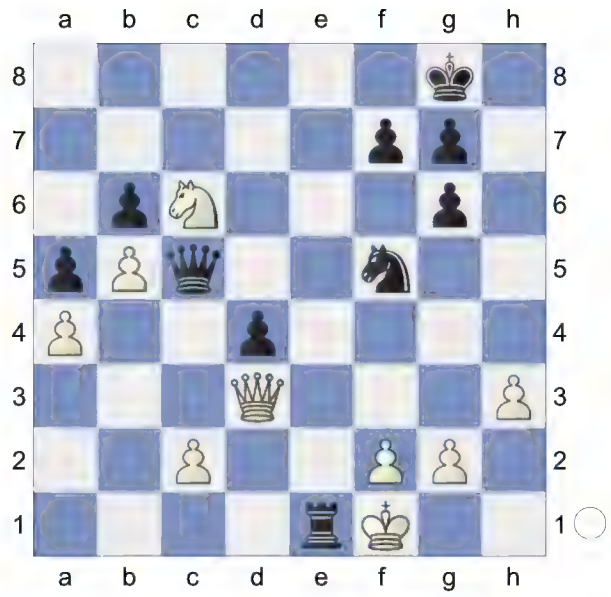
[25...Rac8= 0.11/20]

(Diagram)



26.Rxe8+ 0.01/22
[26.Qd3!± 0.57/23 Qxd3 *(26...Rxe1+ 27.Rxe1 Qxd3 28.cxd3+-)* 27.cxd3]
26...Rxe8 27.Qd3 Qc5 28.Rd1 Kh7 29.Kf1 Idea is Re1 to trade the rooks.
29...Kg8? 0.53/24 You cannot wait here as black as now there is Re1.
[29...Re6 You must play this as after 30.Re1 Rxe1+ 31.Kxe1 Qd5 32.g3 Qa2= This is a problem and black's king is safe on h7.]
[Black should try 29...Qd6= 0.01/25 30.Re1 *(30.Nxd4 Qh2=)* 30...Rxe1+ 31.Kxe1 Qd5]
30.Re1± Rxe1+

(Diagram)



31.Kxe1 Endgame. KQN-KQN **31...Kf8**
[31...Qd5? 6.26/24 31...f7-f6 0.54 I've shown you this. Now it doesn't work as after 32.Qxf5! Qxf5 33.Ne7+ Kf8 34.Nxf5 gxf5 35.Ke2+- even though it's an equal pawn endgame, white is gonna get the d4 pawn and white is simply winning. Also, black has doubled pawns as well and the a and b pawns white has are stronger then black's a and b pawns.]
32.Kd2 Nd6
[32...Qd5 Now this does work but isn't as good as now white can play 33.Ke2! 0.16/19 exchanging the pawns. *(33.g3± 0.52/21* was preferrable.*)* 33...Qxg2= 34.Nxd4 Nxd4+ 35.Qxd4 but here white is better as black cannot save the b6 pawn and white will simply have an unstoppable past pawn.
A) 35...f6? 2.96/23 35...Kf8-g8 0.20 If black tries to stop checkmate this way, after 36.Qxb6 Qe4+ 37.Kd2 1.39/22 *(White has to play 37.Kd1!+-* 2.70/22) 37...Qb4+ 2.88/22 *(37...Qxa4±* 1.39/22 *38.Qc5+ Ke8)* 38.Kd3 Qa3+

39.Ke2 Qxa4 40.Qd8+ this king is vulnerable and black cannot stop the promotion. e.g. Kf7 41.Qd5+ Ke8 42.Qc5+- 1.23/18 b6 is an unstoppable threat and black isn't gonna stop the promotion as his king is too vulnerable to checks. *(⌓42.b6* 0.86/19 *Qxc2+ 43.Kf3)*;

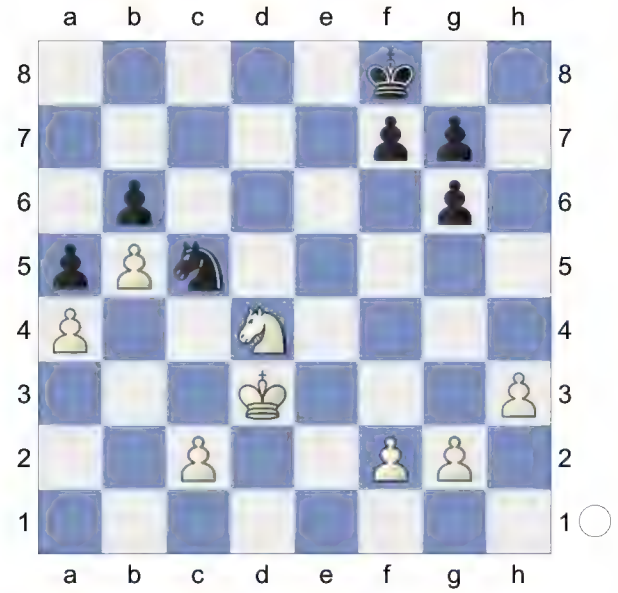
B) 35...Kg8! Only move that doesn't lose immediately. 36.Qxb6 Qe4+ 37.Kd2 Qb4+! 38.Kd3 Strongly threatening Qb6-c7. Qa3+! 39.Ke2 Qxa4 now the idea of 40.Qd8+ doesn't work as there is *(40.Qc5!?)* 40...Kh7= and the king is safe and black can save the game.]

33.Qxd4 Qxd4+ 34.Nxd4± KN-KN

34...Ne4+ 35.Kd3!

[35.Ke3 Nc5±]

35...Nc5+



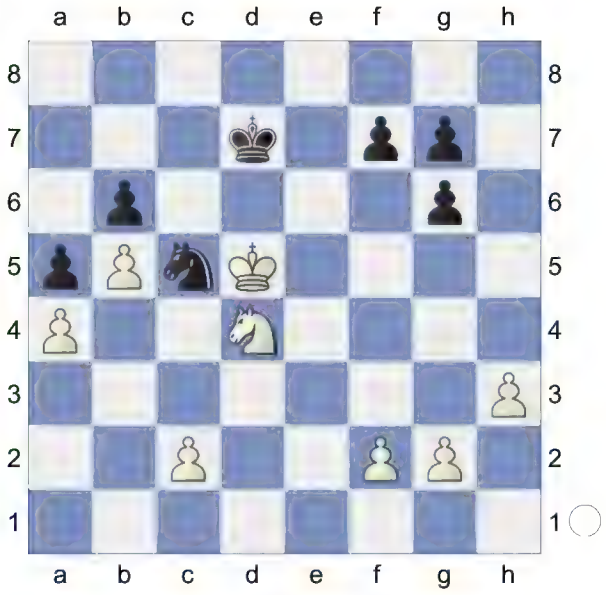
36.Kc4! Only move that doesn't end in a draw.

[36.Ke3 0.01/23 36.Kd3-c4 1.00 If this for example, then after Nxa4 king needs an extra move to get to d5 and other black's pawns, but he is too slow as after 37.Ke4 Ke4-d5 is the strong threat. Nc3+= white isn't gonna get to black's pawns and now white has to be the one defending the position.]

36...Ke7 37.Kd5

[37.Nc6+ Kd6 38.f4 *(38.Nd8 f6∓)* 38...f6=]

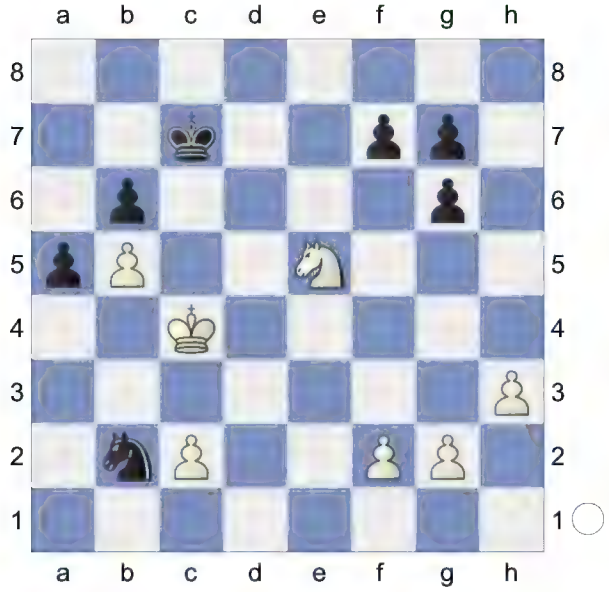
37...Kd7



It might look like black stopped white from getting in, but Onischuk proved Rakhmanov wrong. **38.Nc6! Nxa4 39.Ne5+** And now black has to give up the pawn on f7. **39...Ke7??** 3.22/23 But Rakhmanov doesn't and losses the game after Kc6. This costs Black the game.

[39...Kc7! Here after 40.Kc4! black cannot play f6 to save the pawn. Dodges Na4-c3. And now Ne5-d3! would win. Nb2+! 2.32/27 *(40...f6??* 5.78/25 40...Na4-c5 1.17 If black plays f6, after *41.Nd3!+-* Not taking the pawn on g6 Kb3 is a huge threat and white will end up with a strong past pawn and black's pawns are still doubled so even though the material is equal, it isn't really as those two pawns equal as 1, not as 2.

That's called relative value as Levy Rozman calls it, something that Stockfish takes into account while evaluating the position.; *40...Kd6±* 1.21/25 was worth a try. *41.Nxf7+ Ke6 42.Ng5+ Kf5)*

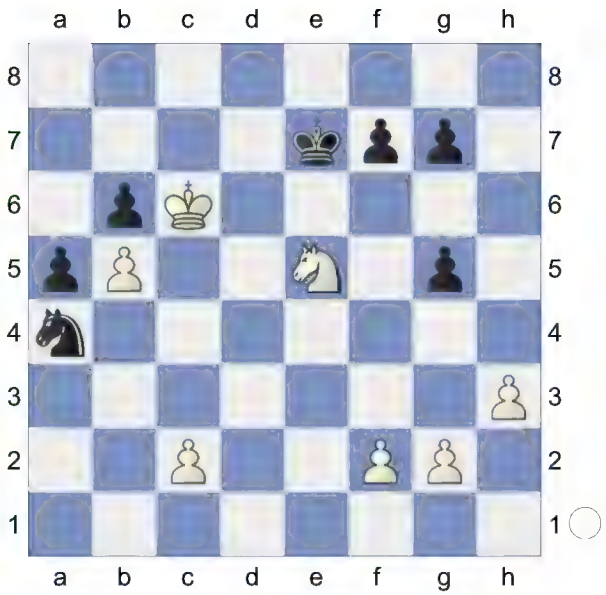


Only hope for black as after 41.Kb3!+- f6 white must take the pawn here as there is Nd1. 42.Nxg6 *(42.Kxb2??* -5.37/24 42.Ne5xg6 2.58 This would've been a blunder as after *fxe5 43.Kb3 Kd6 44.Kc4 g5-+* the a pawn for black now becomes a strong asset and he can actually play Ke6 not letting white make any progress until white runs out of moves and has to start giving up pawns.*)* 42...Nd1 43.Nf4 Hoping for Nf4-d3. Nxf2 44.Nh5± White will find the target on g7 but it's not so easy for white to prove he is better here as black's knight is also gonna be very strong.]

[39...Kc7± 1.34/24 was called for.]

40.Kc6!+- g5

(Diagram)

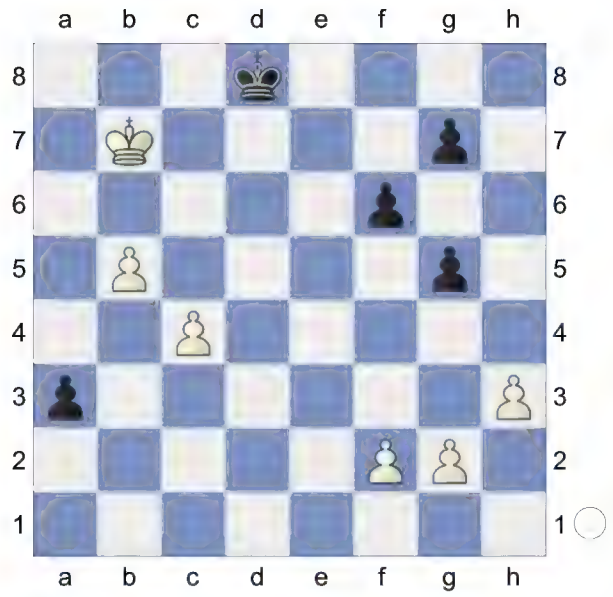


41.c4 f6 42.Nd7 And even here Rakhmanov could've resigned since he is gonna lose the b6 pawn, but he didn't. **42...Kd8** 4.96/21

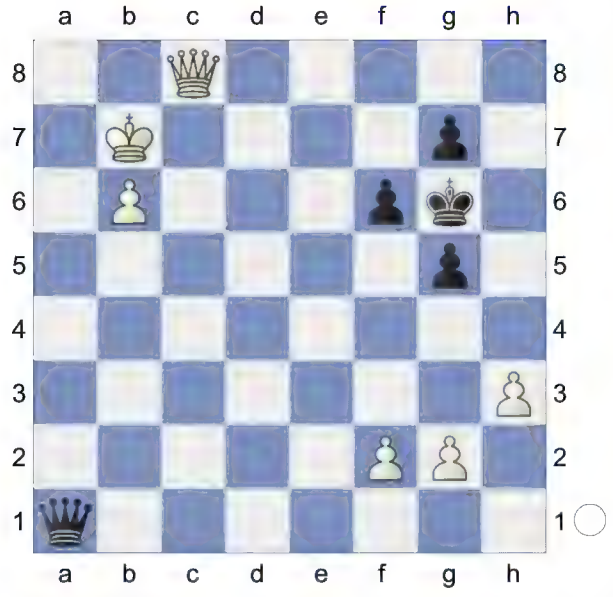
[42...Ke6 3.25/21 might work better. 43.c5 *(43.Nxb6 Nxb6 44.Kxb6 a4+-)* 43...bxc5]

43.Nxb6 Nxb6 44.Kxb6 KP-KP **44...a4** He probably didn't because he missed Onischuk's only winning move. White must now prevent ...a4-a3. **45.Kb7!** Other move is c5 which is a draw, everything else is dead lost. Now white will promote at the same time as black, but will have an extra pawn that will be promoting at some point as well. **45...a3**

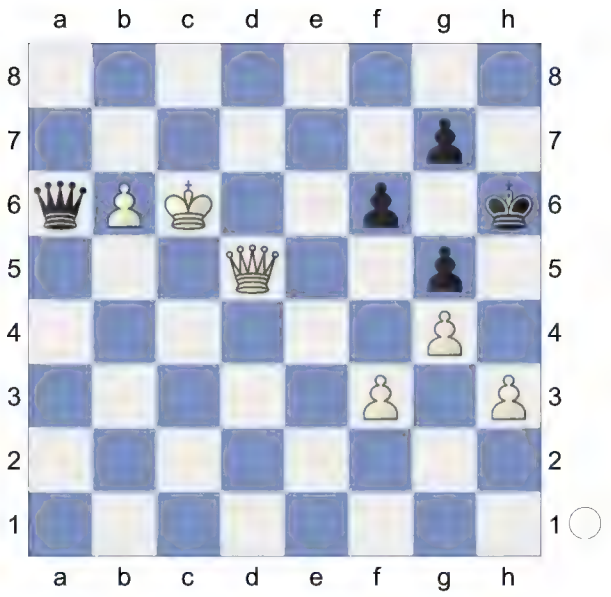
(Diagram)



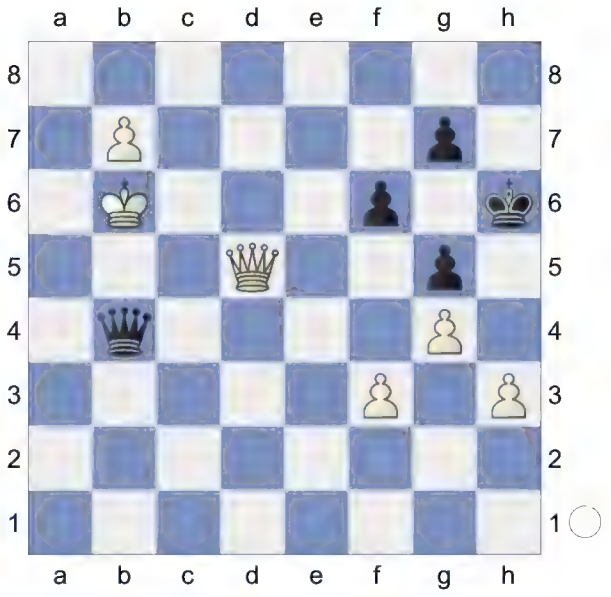
46.c5 a2 47.c6 a1Q 48.c7+ Ke7 49.c8Q KQ-KQ
[49.c8R? Qb2 50.b6 Qxf2-+]
49...Kf7 7.80/25
[⌓49...Qd4 4.36/20 50.Qc7+ Ke8]
50.b6 Kg6 7.38/23
[⌓50...Qd4 4.68/21 51.Qc6 Ke7 52.Qc7+ Ke8]



51.g4 Qh1+ 52.Qc6 Qa1 53.f3 Threatens to win with Kb7-c8. **53...Qa3 54.Qd5 Kh6 55.Kc6 Qa6**
(Diagram)

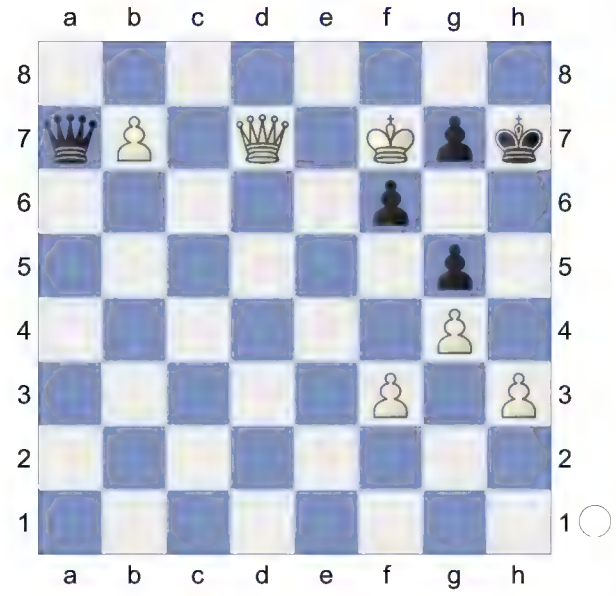


56.Kc7 Intending b6-b7 and mate.
56...Qa3 57.b7 Qe7+ 58.Kc6 Qe8+ 59.Kc5 18.39/25
[⌓59.Qd7 #14/23 Qg8 60.Qc7 Qe6+ 61.Kc5 *(61.Qd6 Qe8+ 62.Kc7 Qf7+ 63.Qd7 Qc4+ 64.Qc6 Qf4+ 65.Kc8 Qb4)* 61...Kh7 62.b8Q *(62.b8B Qa6+-)* 62...Qa2 63.Qcc8 Qa3+ 64.Kc6]
59...Qe7+ 60.Kb6 Qb4+



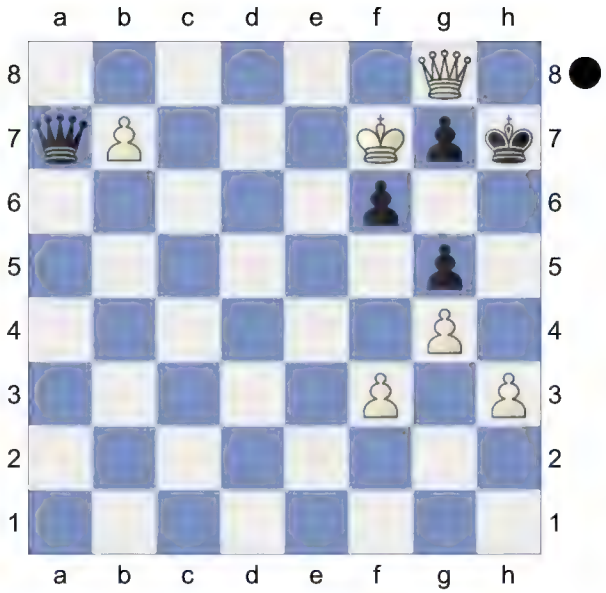
61.Kc6 Qd5-b5 would kill now.
61...Qc3+ 62.Kd7 Qb4 63.Ke8 White wants to mate with Ke8-f7.

63...Qb6 64.Qd7 17.09/19
[⌓64.Kf8 #10/19 f5 65.Qf7 *(65.gxf5 g6+-)* 65...Qd6+ 66.Kg8 *(66.Qe7 Qb8+ 67.Qe8 Qd6+ 68.Kg8 Qg6 69.Qxg6+ Kxg6 70.b8Q fxg4 71.Qd6+* Zwischenzug *Kh5 72.hxg4+ Kh4 73.Qh2#)* 66...Qd8+ 67.Qf8 Qd5+ 68.Kh8 *(68.Qf7 Qd8+ 69.Qf8 Qd5+ 70.Kh8 Qe5 71.b8Q Qxb8 72.Qxb8 fxg4 73.hxg4 Kg6 74.Qf8 Kh6 75.Qxg7#)* 68...Qe5 69.b8Q *(69.b8B Qf6 70.Qxf6+ gxf6 71.gxf5 Kh5 72.Bg3 Kh6 73.Kg8 Kh5 74.Kg7 g4 75.fxg4+ Kg5 76.Kh8 Kh6 77.Bf4#)*]
64...Qa7 65.Kf7 Here it's just mate coming, black is lost. White mates.
65...Kh7



66.Qf5+ Kh8 67.Qc8+ Kh7 68.Qg8+

(Diagram)



And here Rakhmanov resigned as after 68... Kh6, 69 Qxg7#. First game went out good for Onischuk, both sides made some mistakes, black had a forced draw available, but in the end the last player to make a mistake is gonna lose, that's how it works in chess. Getting a good result with a new opening is extremely important of course and this is slowly gonna become Onischuk's main weapon against French Defense.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.47
1-0

55 **C01**
□ **Aravindh,Chithambaram VR** **2506**
■ **Anton Guijarro,David** **2641**
Aeroflot Open A 2016 (3.40) 03.03.2016
[Sadorra,Julio]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such

as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent.' **1.e4** Sadorra,J Sadorra,J Sadorra,J: 'Sadorra, Julio Sadorra,Julio: 'Sadorra,J'' **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3** This is a good surprise line against the French, and even a few GMs have been using it regularly recently, for example V. Onischuk, Kovalenko & Ponkratov. Though it may not be a serious way for White to obtain an edge from the opening, it's an effective way to get a playable & fighting position as this game shows! **3...dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**

[Another way for Black to equalise from the opening is 5...Nbd7!? 6.Ne2 e5]

6.Ne2 Be7

[Another good move is 6...Nc6 7.Be3 e5! Hoping for ...e5-e4. 8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.dxe5 Qxd1+ 10.Kxd1 Ng4 and Black is already doing fine 11.Nd2 Nxe5 12.Re1 Ba6 13.Nc3 0-0-0 14.Bg5 Prevents Bf8-e7 f6 15.Rxe5 Bd6! 16.Re6 fxg5 17.Nde4 -0.38/20 *(17.Nce4= 0.01/21 should be considered. Bc7 18.Nxc5)* 17...Be5+ 0-1 (17) Khanin,S (2407)-Sibashvili,G (2361) Kirishi RUS 2015]

7.Nbc3 0-0 8.0-0

[8.Be3 Qa5! 9.a3 Rd8 10.Qb1 *(10.0-0 Nc6↑)* 10...Nc6∓ 0-1 (40) Kovalenko,I (2621)-Ponkratov,P (2605) Izhevsk 2013]

[8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 f5 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 Bc4 20.b3 Ba6 21.Kd1 Bf2 22.Ne2 Re8 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4)]

8...Qa5?! 0.32/17 It's possible that David is familiar with the Kovalenko-Ponkratov game since he played analogously here, or at least his idea was to place his rook on d8.

[8...Nc6 is natural and better 9.Be3 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Ne5= 11.Be2 Qc7! 12.Qc1 Neg4 *(12...a6!? 13.Bf4 Bd6)* 13.Bf4 e5 14.Bg3 Nh5 0-1 (54) Lutsenko,A (2026)-Lomasov,S (2344) Moscow 2016;and Black is slowly taking over.]

[8...Nc6= -0.06/20]

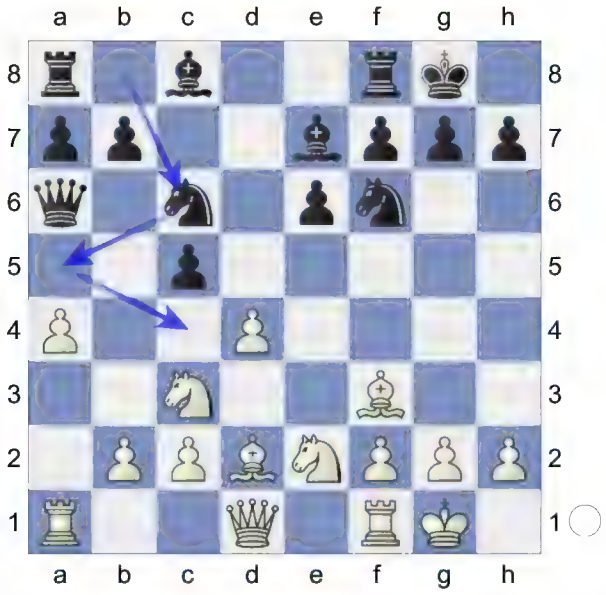
9.Bd2N This normal move is probably what Black underestimated as now the placement of his ♕ becomes the source of all his problems.

[9.Qe1 Kh8 10.Be3 Nc6 11.g3 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Bd7 14.Nd5 Qxe1 15.Rfxe1 Nxd5 16.Bxd5 Bb4 17.Bxb7 Rab8 18.Bf3 Bxe1 19.Rxe1 Rfc8 20.Rc1 Bc6 21.Bxc6 Rxc6 22.c4 a5 23.Kf1 a4 ½-½ (51) Gusev,D (1863)-Vardanyan,A (1735) Wch U10 Montesilvano 2024 (10)]

9...Qa6

[9...Qc7 10.Bf4]
[9...Nc6 10.Nd5 Qd8 11.Nxe7+ Qxe7 12.dxc5 Qxc5 13.Be3±]

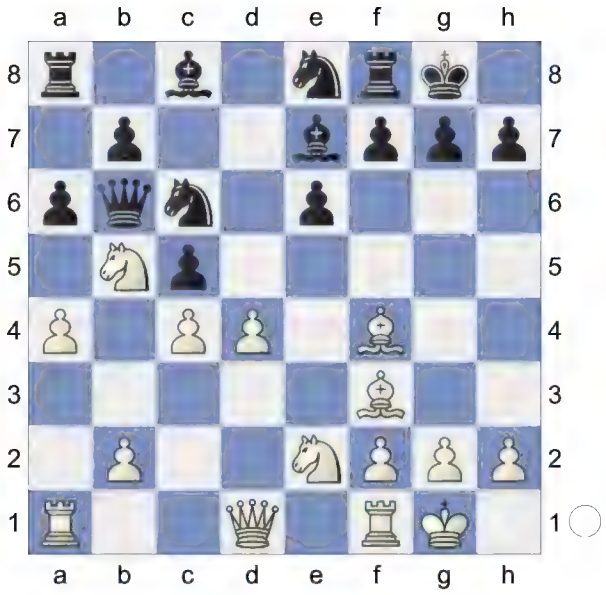
10.a4! Nc6
[10...Bd7 is met by the energetic 11.Nb5! Bxb5 12.axb5 Qxb5 13.Nc3↑]



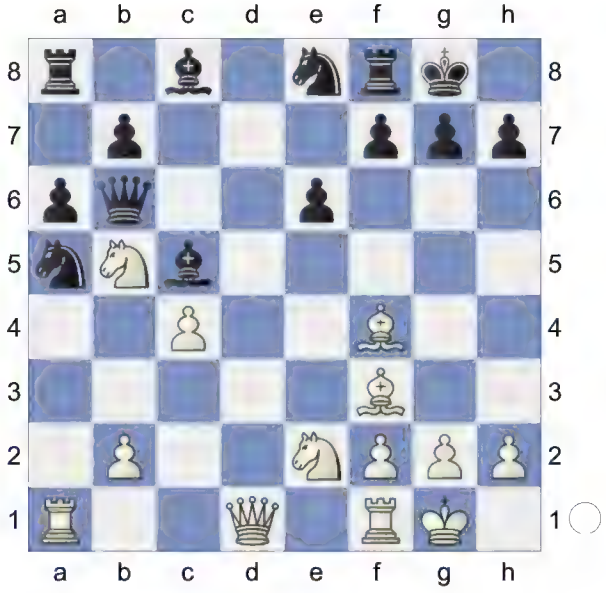
11.Nb5 Qb6 Prevents Nb5-c7 **12.Bf4!** After a few moves clearly it is White who benefited the most from Black's wandering ♕-move on the queenside. **12...Ne8** Repels Bf4-c7 **13.c4!** A nice prophylactic move (vs. a6) while introducing a4-a5 ideas in the future. Black's position is difficult and it seems most logical to kick away the ♘ on b5.
[Also interesting is 13.c3!? solidifying the centre, in anticipation of a6 0.75/22 *(13...c4± 0.38/21)* 14.Na3± cxd4 15.Nxd4 Nxd4 16.Qxd4! Qxd4 17.cxd4± and Black's queenside is too weak.]

13...a6

(Diagram)



14.a5! Nxa5 15.dxc5 Bxc5



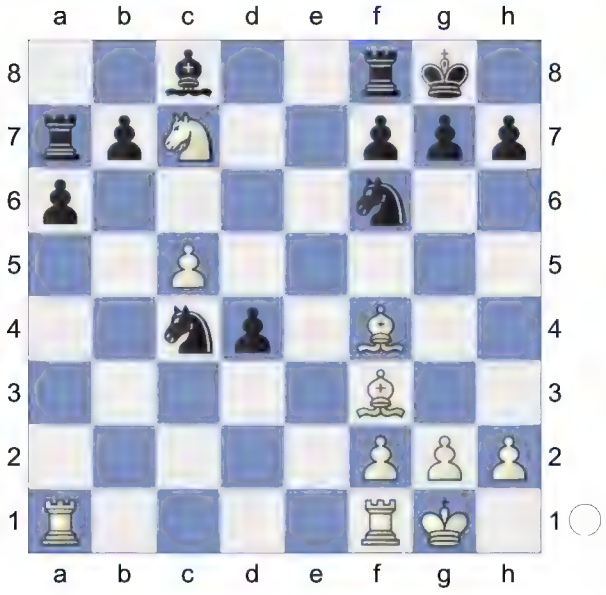
16.b4! White has more active pieces. The black rooks are passive.I'm sure Aravindh foresaw this before playing c2-c4 as almost all of the previous moves are forced. **16...Nxc4**
[16...Bxb4 1.67/23 16...Na5xc4 0.91 17.Be3!+-]
[16...Bxb4? perishes. 17.Be3+-]

17.bxc5 Qxb5 18.Qd4 centralisation at its best. **18...e5** This freeing move just comes a little too late.

19.Bxe5 0.23/22

[⌓19.Nc3!

A) 19...exd4 20.Nxb5 Nf6 1.09/22 *(20...d3± 0.63/21)* 21.Nc7± Rb8 *(21...Ra7*



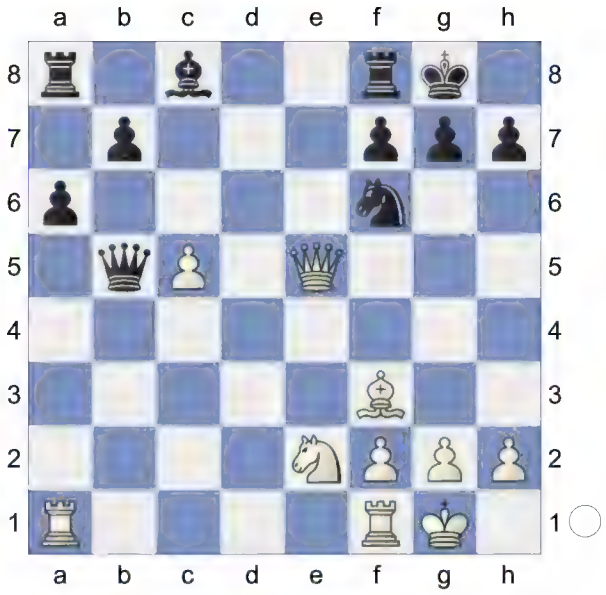
22.Ra4!) 22.Nd5±;

B) 19...Qb3! 20.Bxe5 Nxe5 21.Qxe5 Bf3-d5 would now be deadly. Nf6 22.Nd5 Nxd5 23.Bxd5 Qb5 24.Rab1± 0.48/19 Against a6-a5 *(24.Rfc1± 0.90/19)*]

[19.Nc3!± 0.68/22 Qb3 *(19...exd4 20.Nxb5* Pin *d3 21.Rfc1±)* 20.Bxe5 Nxe5 21.Qxe5]

19...Nxe5= 20.Qxe5 Black must now prevent Ne2-d4. **20...Nf6**

(Diagram)



21.Nc3 Qe8

[A more stubborn try is 21...Re8!? Strongly threatening ...Qb5xf1+.

A) 22.Qg5 -0.26/21 22.Qe5-d4 0.64 Qb4∞ 0.23/19 *(22...Qd3* -0.26/21 is more appropriate. *23.c6 Qxc3 24.cxb7 Bxb7 25.Bxb7 h6)*;

B) 22.Nxb5 0.23/22 22.Qe5-c7 -0.19 Rxe5 23.Nc7 -0.33/27 *(23.Rfc1=* 0.08/23) 23...Rb8∓ 24.Rab1 Rf1-d1 is the strong threat. Bf5!;

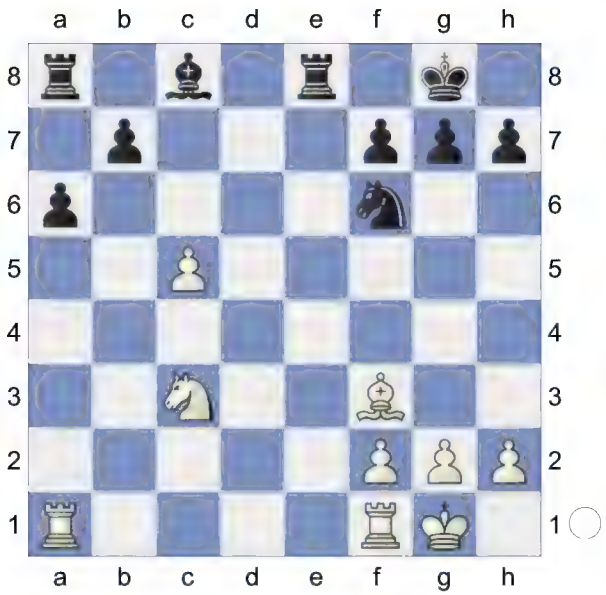
C) 22.Qc7= -0.15/22 Qb2 23.Rac1;

D) 22.Qd4 0.57/22 22...Qd7± 23.Qf4! preventing ...♕c7 *(23.Qc4* -0.72/20 23.Qd4-f4 0.48 *Qc7)* 23...Qe6 White is better but Black is still fighting.]

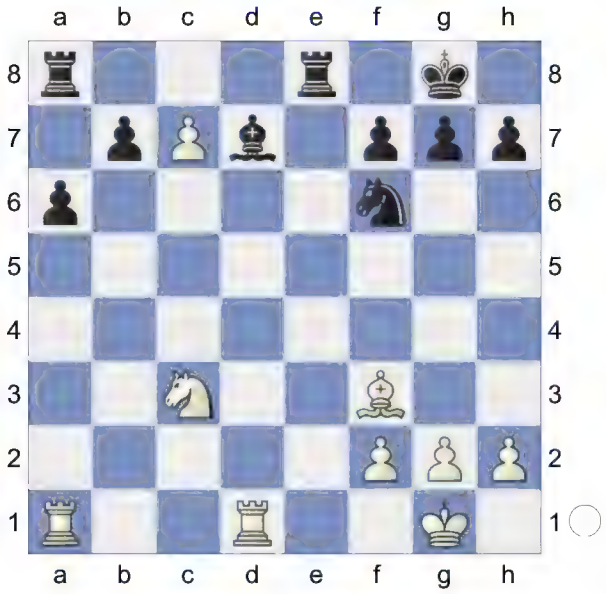
22.Qxe8 Rxe8 1.61/21

[22...Nxe8± 0.32/23 23.Rfb1 Nc7]

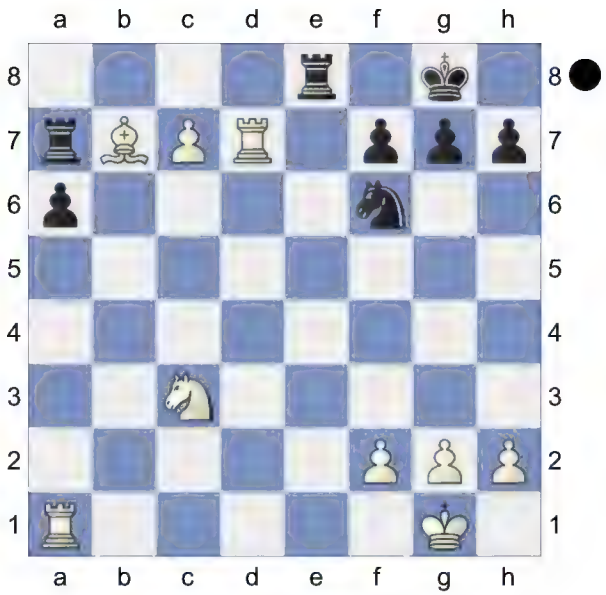
(Diagram)



Loses the game. **23.c6!**↑ White is in control. Opening up the game is almost always the best way to take advantage of superior development or piece activity.
23...Rb8 2.78/21
[23...bxc6 24.Bxc6±]
[⌓23...bxc6 1.70/24 24.Bxc6 Be6 25.Bxe8 Nxe8]
24.c7 Ra8 25.Rfd1 Bd7? 6.78/24
[25...Be6 2.10/22]



26.Bxb7 Ra7 27.Rxd7
(Diagram)



Promotion.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.47Impressive and energetic play from the young Indian grandmaster!
1-0

56 **C01**
□ **Onischuk,V** **2614**
■ **Firman,Nazar** **2519**
Nebesna sotnya Mem Rapid (5.1)
[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

Welcome to 2016, we're in a Rapid event and in the past few games Onischuk didn't have much of a success with this opening. You would think he would give up on it after losing to GM Hao Wang, GM Predrag Nikolic and drawing a WFM (currently WIM, got it in 2020) Nadiia Shpanko who was 500 points lower rated then Onischuk. But no, Onischuk still believed in this opening and so this game happened.
C01: French: Exchange Variation
Here is another interesting game. Aaron,

Onischuk's opponent, isn't a person who's gonna make chess his main thing in life, but he is still a pretty strong player. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 Nc6** An interesting side line covered in my study right here: https://lichess.org/study/B0VjjEXy The thing Onischuk does different is playing Nf3 rather then my suggestion c3. I did show the Nf3 idea as well though, so go check it out if you haven't already. **4.Nf3**

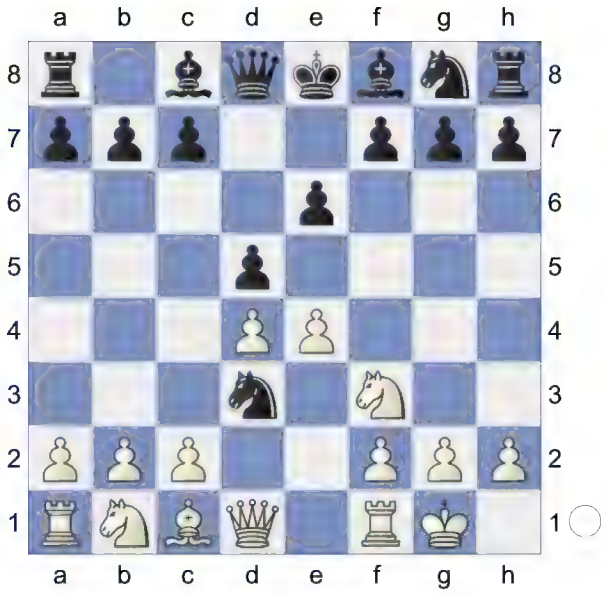
[4.c3 e5 5.Nf3 dxe4 6.Bxe4 exd4 7.0-0 Nf6 8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.Re1+ Be7 10.Nxd4 c5 11.Qa4+ Bd7 12.Nc6 0-0 13.Nxe7+ Qxe7 14.Rxe7 Bxa4 15.Na3 Nd5 16.Re1 Rad8 17.h3 Rfe8 18.Bd2 Nb4 ½-½ (43) 3.d4 cd4 4. ♘d4 e5 5. ♘b5/ (2571)-Saint Arroman,A (2585) World op 30th 2002]

4...Nb4 The reason why I don't like this line is this move though, as I don't like the idea of our bishop disappearing, but looks like Onischuk isn't bothered by that. **5.0-0**

[5.Nc3 My recommendation in the study is this one, I like it a bit more since it gives you an option to castle short still but also to maybe castle long after developing the bishop. Nxd3+ *(5...Nf6 6.Bg5 Be7 7.0-0 Nxd3 8.cxd3 c6 9.h3 b6 10.Qa4 Bb7 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.exd5 exd5 13.Rfe1+ Kf8 14.Ne5 Qd6 15.Re3 g6 16.Rae1 Kg7 17.Ne2 Bg5 18.f4 Bh4 19.g3 Bf6 20.f5* 1-0 (43) Onischuk,V (2612)-Grabinsky,A (2401) Titled Tue 12th Dec Late blitz 2023 (4) *)* 6.Qxd3±]

5...Nxd3

(Diagram)



6.cxd3N This move is extremely interesting and weird and was seen only once after this by IM Alexandr Triapishko in Titled Tuesday against FM Levente Papp 4 years after this game. So, what's the point? The point is that now black can never take in the center. If he does, white's center will be extremely strong because Onischuk can take with a pawn. Black also cannot poke with c5 because Onischuk can either wait for black to take on d4 or just at some point take on c5 and again he has 2 pawns in the center making his center extremely strong. It's a very creative idea shutting down 2 very important ideas in the French Defense.

[6.Qxd3 Perhaps this would've been a more "normal looking" move, but after dxe4 *(6...Nf6 7.exd5 Qxd5 8.Nc3 Qh5 9.Bf4 c6 10.Rae1 Be7 11.Re5 Qg6 12.Qe2 h6 13.Re3 Qf5 14.Be5 0-0 15.Re1 b6 16.Nd2 Qxc2 17.Rg3 Ba6 18.Qe3 Kh7 19.Nde4 Ne8 20.Bxg7 Nxg7 21.Rh3* 0-1 (30) Zavgorodniy,S (2423)-Oganian,M (2437) Titled Tue 5th Apr Early blitz 2022 (5) *)* 7.Qxe4 this queen is

vulnerable to attacks and white doesn't have the big center that Onischuk wants. He'll have to play c4 and Nc3 and his center is nowhere near as strong as it could be.]

6...Nf6 7.Nc3

[7.e5 I don't really know why this move wasn't played. This way we transpose to the game between IM Dmitry Mischuk and IM (now a GM) Platon Galperin in 2018 and that one went Ng8 8.Nc3± and now we also get to another game between an FM and a GM. The position here is a bit better for white simply because of white's space. Best guess is that Onischuk really wanted Nazar to take on e4.]

7...Be7 8.Bf4

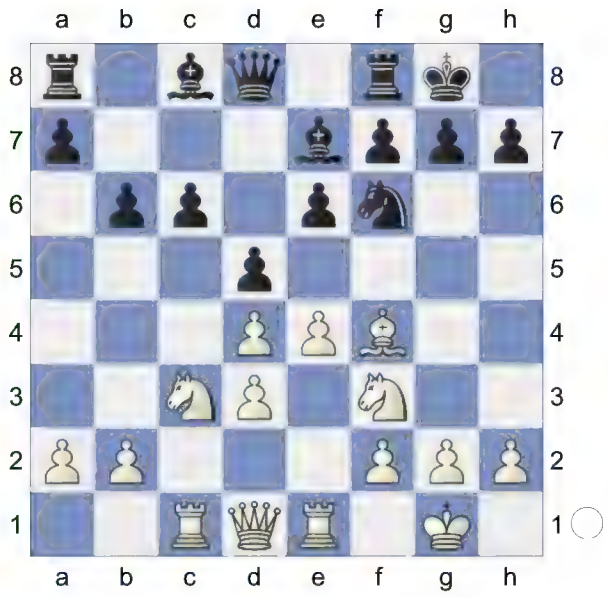
[8.h3 During the next year, Onischuk played this move instead of Bf4 stopping Ng4. The thing is, this is a downgrade to his previous move. He drew that game.]

8...0-0 9.Rc1 c6 10.Re1

[10.e5 Again, throught the whole time I don't understand what's wrong with this move. Maybe here Onischuk didn't like Nh5 but you can just play 11.Be3± and you're planning to play Ne1 and f4 anyways, so I don't understand why was Onischuk rejecting this move because I'm sure he saw this, it's extremely natural.]

10...b6

(Diagram)



11.Qb3?! And we're down to 0.0 from +0.5. Queen has nothing to do here and a bit later Onischuk drops it back to d1 so this really is a waste of time.

[11.e5 Again, this move is extremely strong and Nh5 isn't a problem at all. Nd7 Maybe this looks like a problem, trying to play c5, but there is just 12.Ne2 and now that's a bit harder. After c5 13.Ng3± with the idea of Nh5, white is simply a bit better due to better attacking chances as he is much more prepared then black who is much more passive and has harder time coordinating his pieces even though he has a bishop pair.]

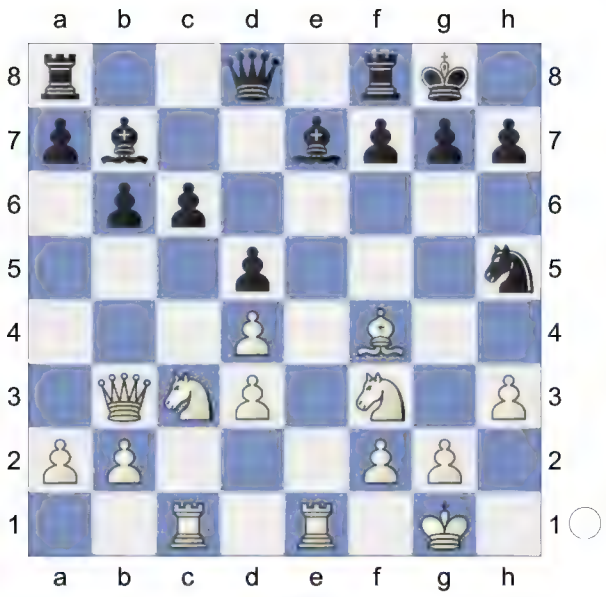
11...Bb7 e5 is still possible, but nope.

12.exd5 exd5 13.h3 Stopping Ng4.

13...Nh5 0.46/20

[13...Re8= 0.00/17]

(Diagram)



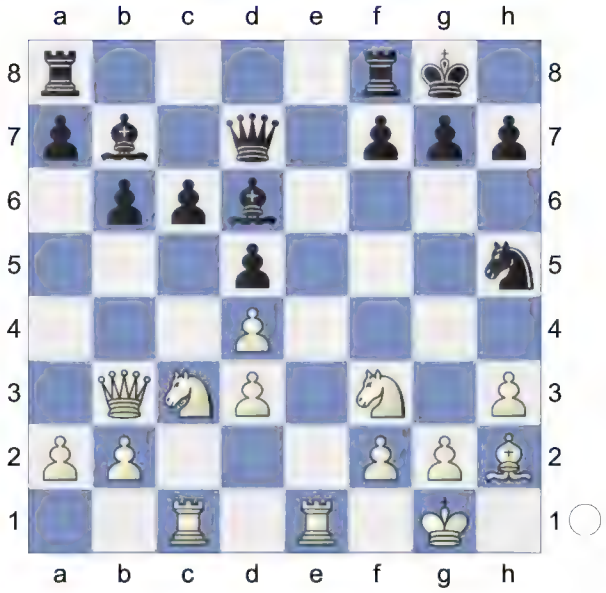
14.Bc7!± And I personally think this is a great comeback in the opening you didn't have good results with lately. This move at first makes no sense, but it's a very tricky move. The point is to take the queen away from the defense of the e7 bishop and black cannot take. Decoy
14...Qd7 Good job to Firman on finding this move. The only move that doesn't lose the game. Black keeps defending the bishop and doesn't run into any pin tactics white has that I've shown you.

[14...Qxc7?? 2.58/20 14...Qd8-d7 0.08 Taking this bishop loses to 15.Nxd5! and black cannot do anything. Wherever he retreats the queen, the follow up is taking and Ne5. Qd6 16.Nxe7+ Kh8 17.Ne5!! And you might say that there is a free horse on e7, there isn't. Qxe7? 7.02/20 *(17...Qf6 2.56/22 18.d5 c5)* 18.Ng6+!+- And black resigns.]

[14...Qe8?? Black can chose to run this way, but it runs into a very powerfull pin. 15.Bd6+- And black will simply lose the bishop, or the best scenario for black is to give up the queen for the rook and the bishop.]

[14...Qxc7? 15.Nxd5 Qd6 16.Nxe7+ Kh8 17.Ne5+-]

15.Bh2 And Onischuk just retreats as there is nothing better to do. **15...Bd6!**



Very important to get the bishop out of the way and try to trade the DSB as that way white will have no bishops and will have 1 active piece less in the game.
16.Ne5! No bishop trade, also attacking the queen. Queen can go to many different squares but only d8 is correct.
16...Qd8

[16...Qe6 This isn't a bad move, it's just not the best move. 17.g4 Nf6 18.Ne2± Ng3 and Qc3 are coming and white will have a very comfortable position.]

[16...Qe7? This isn't a very good move as it loses a pawn. 17.Nxc6 Bxh2+ 18.Kxh2 Qd6+ 19.Ne5! f6 And even though this might look scary, there is a simple move that saves white and gives white advantage. 20.Nb5! Qb8 21.Qd1 g6! 22.Nc7! Queen doesn't see white's king anymore and the rook is hanging. fxe5 23.Rxe5± And here, white is the one with the initiative.]

[16...Qe8? This does protect the c6 pawn still, but now there is 17.Qd1! Nf6 18.Bg3± With an idea of Bh4-Qf3-Ne2 and some kind of an attack on the king side.]

[16...Qc8? 1.19/22 16...Qd7-d8 0.08 Simply walks into a pin. 17.Nxd5!]

[16...Qc7?? And this one loses immediately to 17.Qd1 Nf6 *(17...g6 4.00/22 17...Nh5-f6 2.54 18.Nb5 Qe7 19.Nxd6 Qxd6 20.Nxf7+-* and black resings. *)* 18.Nb5! Qe7 19.Nxd6 Qxd6 20.Nxc6+-]

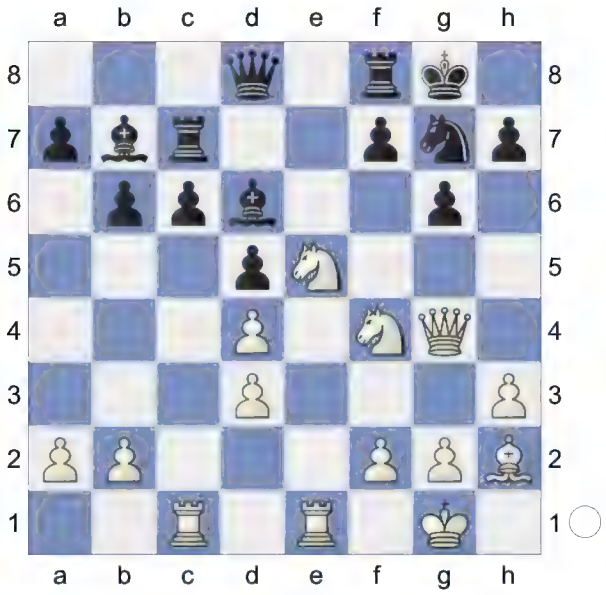
17.Qd1?! I don't think this is good, I think here g4 would've been better as the queen actually serves a bit of purpose now at pressuring d5.

[17.g4 Nf6 18.Bg3 Followed by Ne2-Nf4 is what I think should've been played.]

17...g6 18.Qg4?! No, the queen cannot attack solo.

[18.Ne2 First you have to bring the knight, then the queen.]

18...Ng7 19.Ne2 Rc8 20.Nf4 Rc7



21.Re2? -1.91/23 The idea is simple, double the rooks on the c-file and win the pawn. Problem is that this doesn't work after h5.

[21.Qd1 Computer is just hilarious, it wants from Onischuk to drop the queen back. Not gonna go into this because it's not human to do this, if someone plays like this they should get inspected by Vladimir Kramnik himself.]

[21.a3 Perhaps a more logical move would be this to stop any possible Bb4 ideas, but the knight still jumps to f5. Nf5 22.b4 At least though white gets some space on the queen side and black cannot take yet as if he does then after Nxd4? 0.34/22 *(22...a5∓* -0.72/20 *23.bxa5 bxa5)* 23.Nxd5±]

[21.Qd1= -0.26/19]

21...Re8? -0.72/19 Which wasn't played by Nazar.

[21...h5! 22.Qf3 Nf5!∓ White cannot protect the pawn and his position will start falling appart. That's the drawback of having an isolated pawn, even worse with doubled isolated pawns.]

[21...h5-+ -1.91/23 22.Qf3 Nf5]

22.Qf3∓ Nf5 23.Ng4! A very important move, everything else is completely losing.

[23.Rec2?? -7.06/21 23.Ne5-g4 -0.80 Trying this now would've been a huge blunder after Nxd4-+]

[Not 23.Nh5? Bc8 *(23...Qg5? 24.Nf6+ Qxf6 25.Ng4-+)* 24.Nxc6 Rxe2 *(24...gxh5? 25.Bxd6 Rxc6 26.Rxc6-+; 24...Bxh2+? 25.Kxh2 Qd6+ 26.Kh1-+)* 25.Bxd6 Qxd6-+]

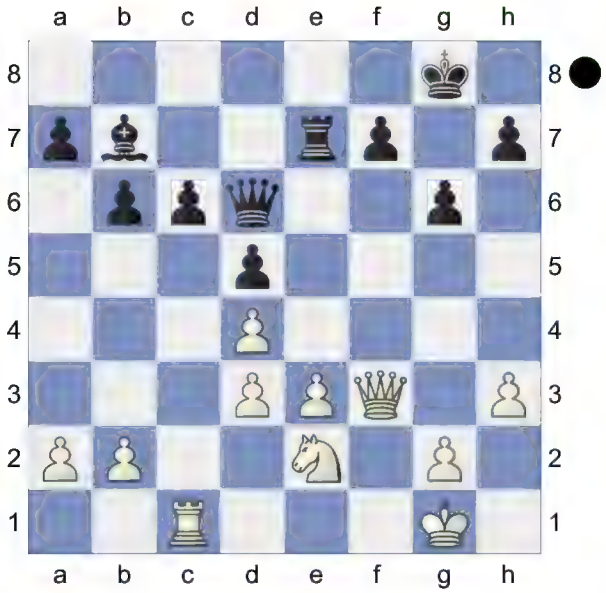
23...Rxe2 24.Nxe2 Bxh2+ 25.Kxh2 Qd6+

[25...Re7 simplifies 26.Kg1 Re6 27.Ne3 Qg5]

(Diagram)

26.Ng3?? -2.21/24 Ouch. Now h5-h4 is completely winning.

[26.Kg1 White should've just dropped back and now Nxd4 isn't possible. Re7! Only move for advantage. After 27.Ne3 Nxe3 28.fxe3



Qb4!∓ Rook pressures the center and queen flanks, white is in a lot of trouble.]

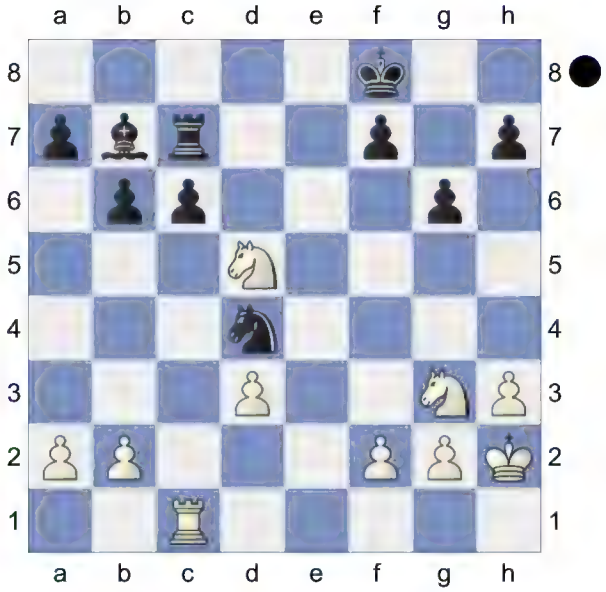
[26.Kg1∓ -0.55/22]

26...Nxd4?? -0.77/23 But Nazar had tunel vision on the pawn on d4 which this gives up.

[26...h5 27.Ne3? -4.91/23 *(27.Kg1 -1.93/22* was worth a try. *hxg4 28.Nxf5 gxf5 29.hxg4)* 27...Nxd4-+ 28.Qd1 h4-+]

[26...h5-+ -2.21/24 is more deadly. And now ...Rc7-e7! would win. 27.Ne5 Nxd4]

27.Qf6 Prevents Rc7-e7. **27...Qxf6 28.Nxf6+ Kf8 29.Nxd5**



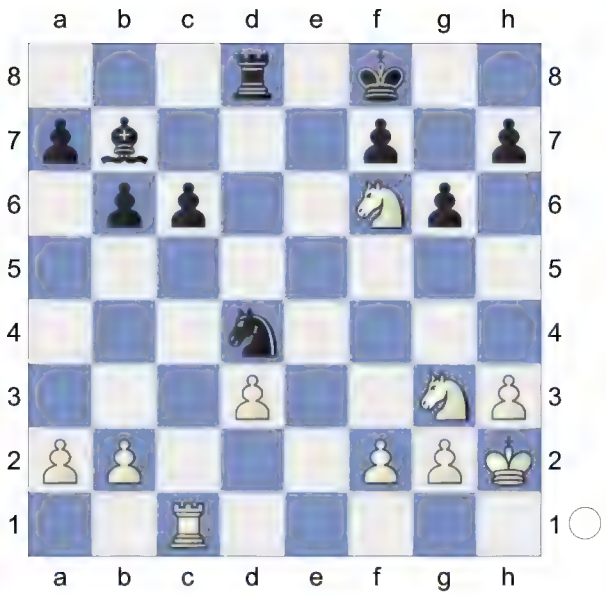
Rd7 -0.43/20 This is a mistake as now Nf6 comes with a tempo + it's a fork.

[29...Rc8 30.Nf6 Now this is easily defendable with Kg7∓]

[29...Rc8!∓ -1.01/22 30.Nf4 *(30.Nf6 h5=)* 30...c5]

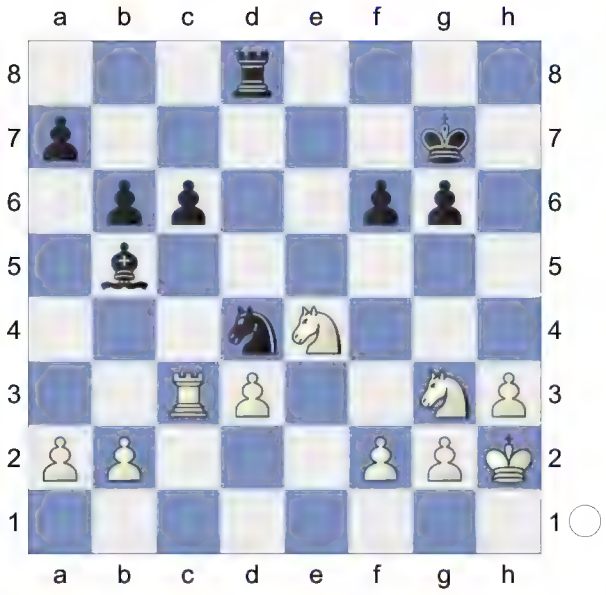
30.Nf6∓ Rd8

(Diagram)



31.Nxh7+ Kg7 32.Ng5 f6 Black has compensation. **33.N5e4 Ba6 34.Rc3** Black must now prevent Rc3-a3. **34...Bb5?!** 0.36/24

[34...Rd7= -0.21/23]



And here Nazar lost. I don't know what happened, it could be that he lost on time but maybe he thought he blundered something here. a4 doesn't work as after Bxa4 and Rc4 white doesn't have a fork as the black's rook is protecting the knight. Overall, a weird defeat but with a brilliancy in the game so I guess it's fine.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.17 (very precise)

1-0

57 **C01**

□ **Beerdsen,Thomas** **2469**

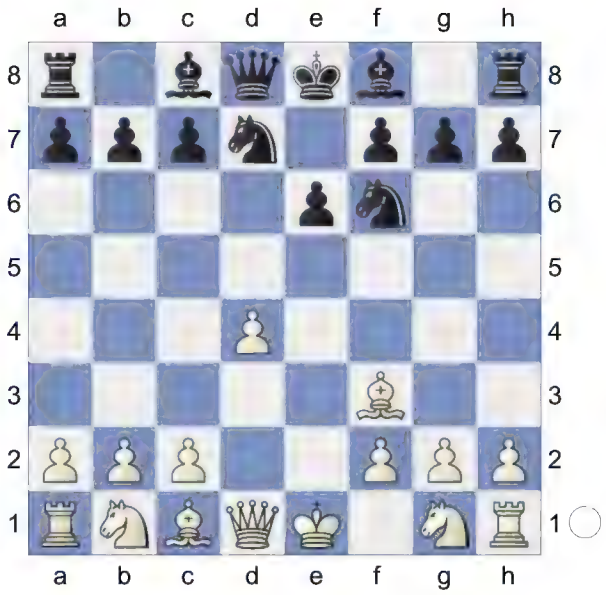
■ **L'Ami,Erwin** **2636**

137/67 Dieren 2018

[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Nbd7



6.Ne2 e5 7.0-0

[7.Nbc3 Bd6 8.Be3 0-0 9.d5 Nb6 10.h3 Bf5 11.g4 e4 12.Bg2 Bg6 13.Bg5 Re8 14.0-0 h6 15.Bh4 Bh7 16.Re1 Bc5 17.Nd4 g5 18.Bg3 Nbxd5 19.Nb3 Bf8 20.Qd4 Nb4 21.Re2 c6 0-1 (58) 7.a4 ♘bd7 8.♗e3 (2612)-Corfield,J (2707) Sochi Chigorin Memorial 1986 (4)]

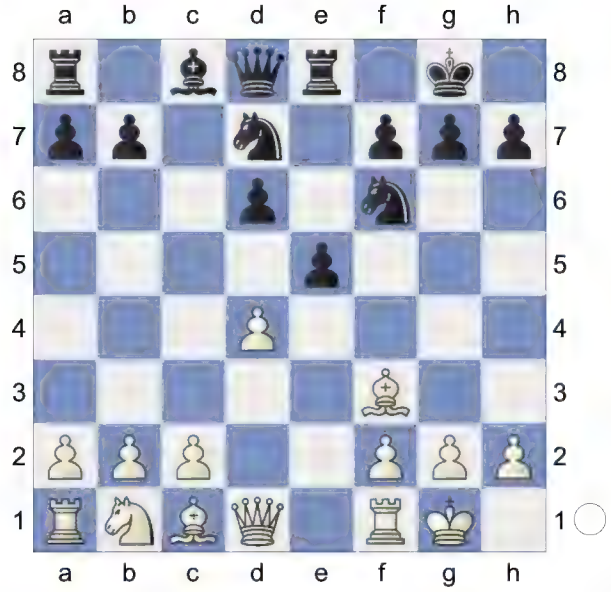
7...Bd6 8.Ng3 The position is equal.

8...0-0 9.Nf5 Re8N

[9...e4 10.Be2 Nb8 11.Nxd6 Qxd6 12.Na3 Nc6 13.c3 Bf5 14.Nc4 Qd7 15.Ne3 Nd5 16.Nxd5 Qxd5 17.Bf4 Qd7 18.Qb3 Rab8 19.d5 Ne7 20.Rad1 Ng6 21.Bg3 b5 22.Qa3 Bg4 23.Bxg4 Qxg4 24.Bxc7 ½-½ Ibarra Jerez,J (2561)-Santiago,Y (2409) La Roda op 43rd 2016 (9)]

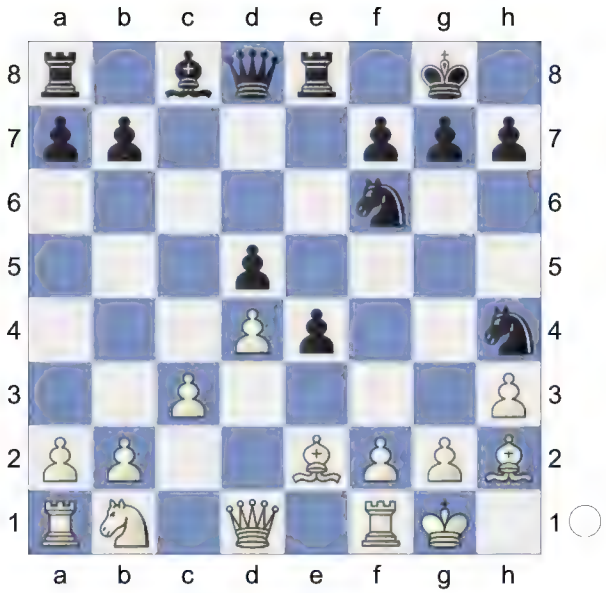
[9...Bb4 10.Bg5 Re8 11.Nc3 Bxc3 12.bxc3 e4 13.Be2 Nf8 14.Ne3 Ng6 15.f4 h6 16.f5 hxg5 17.fxg6 fxg6 18.c4 Be6 19.d5 Bf7 20.Qd4 Qe7 21.Rad1 b6 22.Rd2 Rad8 23.Bd1 Qa3 24.Rdf2 ½-½ (43) Herrmann,J (2068)-Wichmann,C (2310) GER-ch 94th Ostfildern 2023 (6)]

10.Nxd6 cxd6

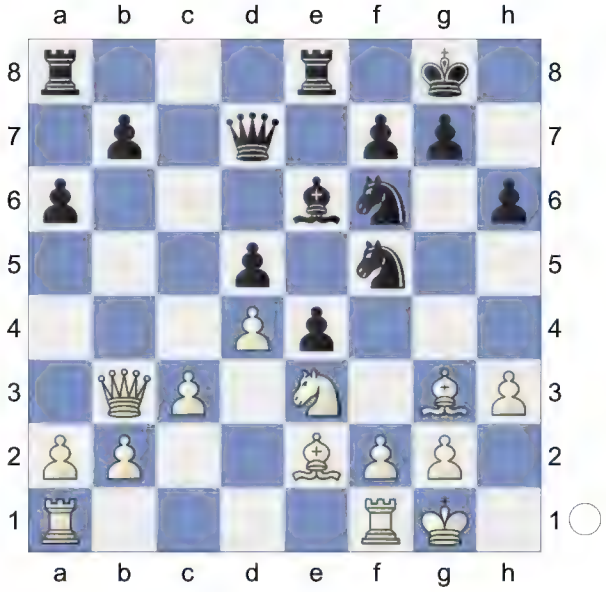


11.c3 e4 12.Be2 d5 13.Bf4 Nf8 14.h3 Ng6 15.Bh2 Nh4

(Diagram)

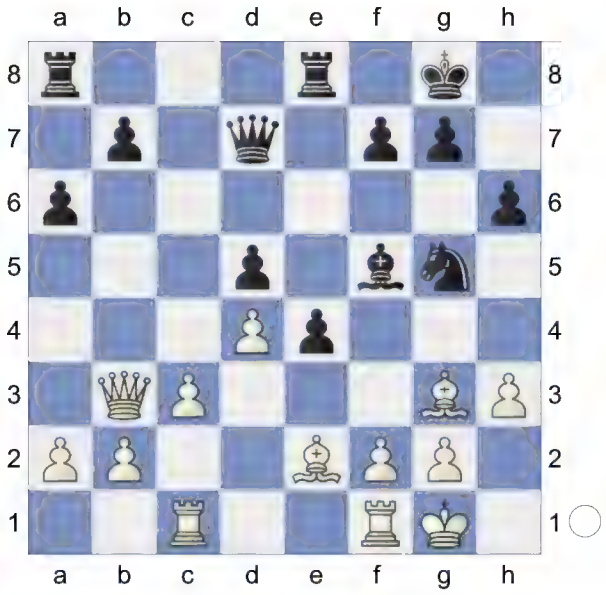


16.Na3 a6 17.Nc2 h6 18.Ne3 Be6 19.Qb3 Qd7 20.Bg3 Nf5

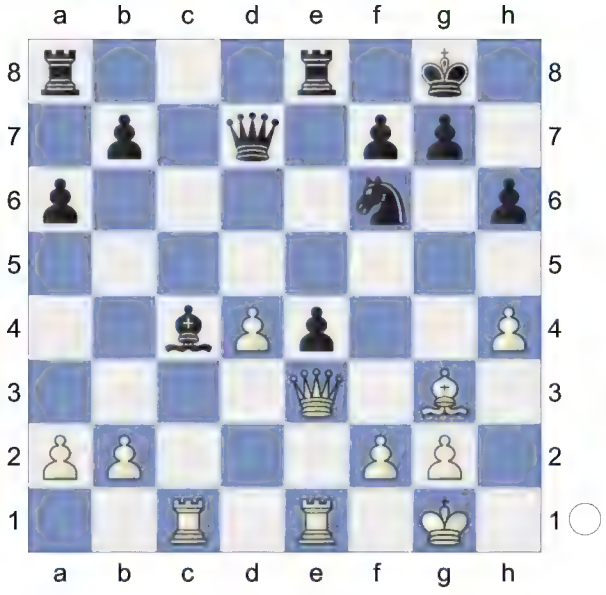


21.Be5 Nh7 22.Rac1 Ng5 23.Bf4 Nh4 24.Bg3 Nf5 25.Nxf5 Bxf5

(Diagram)

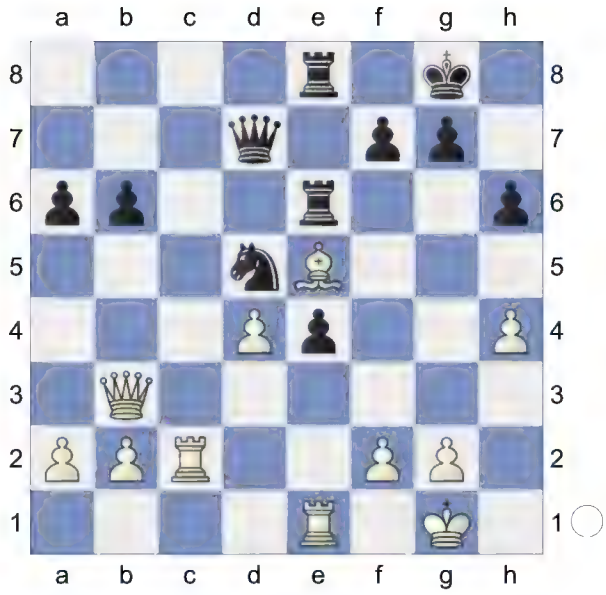


26.h4 Nh7 27.c4 dxc4 28.Bxc4 Nf6!
Prevents Bc4-d5 **29.Qe3 Be6**
[29...Rad8 is more complex. 30.Be5 Ng4 31.Qf4 Be6]
30.Rfe1 Bxc4

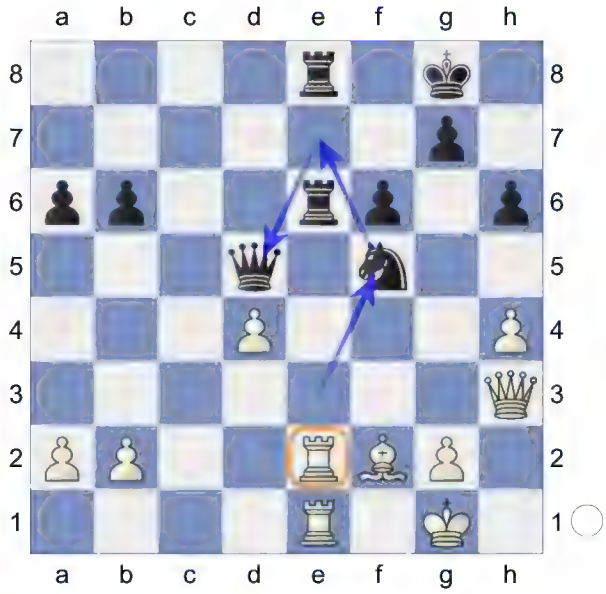


31.Rxc4 Nd5 Against Rc4-c7 **32.Qb3 Rad8 33.Be5 Re6 34.Rc5**
[34.Rxe4? f6 35.g3 Kh8∓ *(35...fxe5? 36.dxe5 Rb6 37.Qc2-+)*]
34...b6 35.Rc2 Rde8

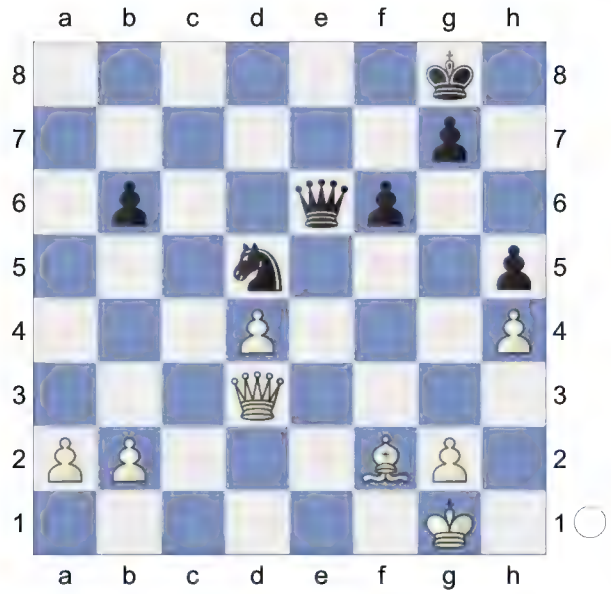
(Diagram)



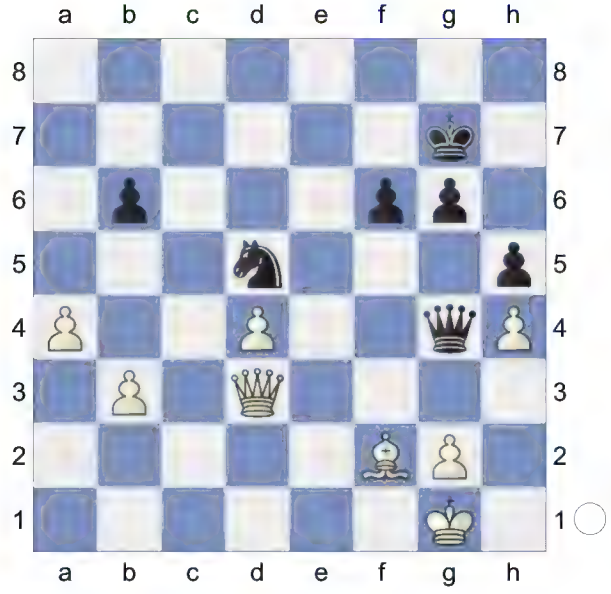
36.Qh3
[Much worse is 36.Rxe4 f6 37.Rd2 a5-+ *(37...fxe5 38.dxe5 Rxe5 39.Rxd5±)*]
36...f6 37.Bg3 e3 38.fxe3 Nxe3
39.Rce2 Threatens to win with Re2xe3.
[But not 39.Rxe3? Qxd4 40.Kh2 Rxe3-+ *(40...Qxe3? 41.Rf2-+)*]
39...Qd5 0.09/23
[39...Qxd4? is the wrong capture. 40.Bf2+-]
[39...R8e7!∓ -0.64/21]
40.Bf2= Nf5



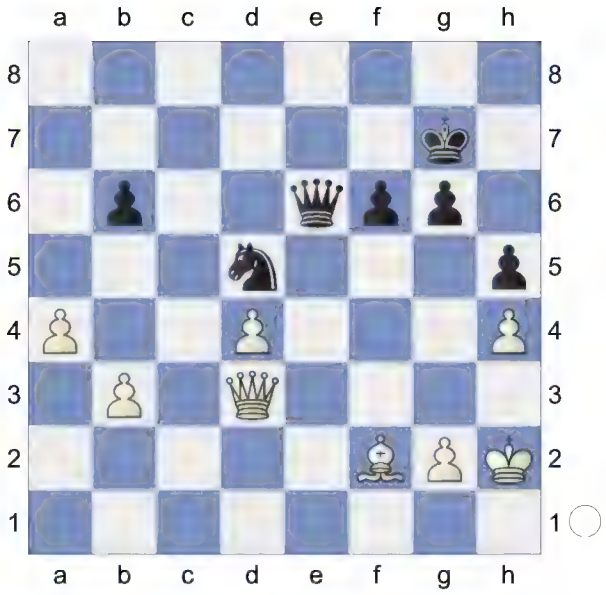
Discovered Attack **41.Rxe6 Rxe6 42.Rxe6 Qxe6** Endgame. KQB-KQN **43.Qd3 Ne7 44.Qxa6 Nd5 45.Qd3 h5**



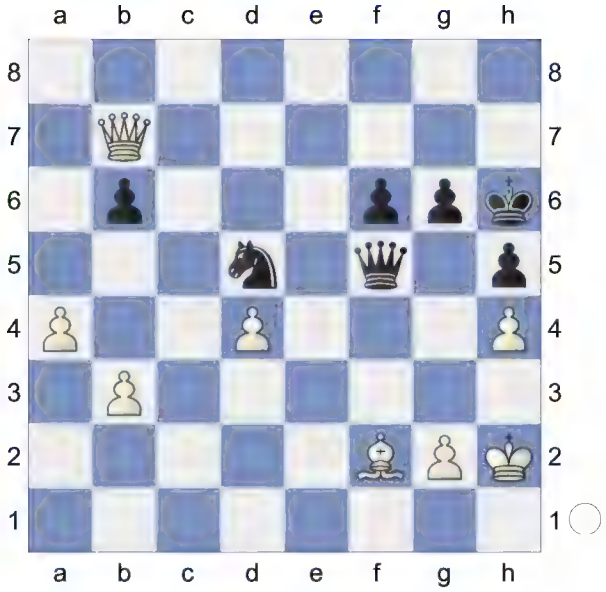
46.b3 Kf7 47.a4 g6 48.Bg3 Kg7!
49.Bf2 -0.01/22
[49.Kh2± 0.52/22]
49...Qg4 1.09/23
[49...Kf7!= -0.01/22 keeps the balance.]



50.Kh2 0.62/22
[Better is 50.b4!± 1.09/23]
50...Qe6±



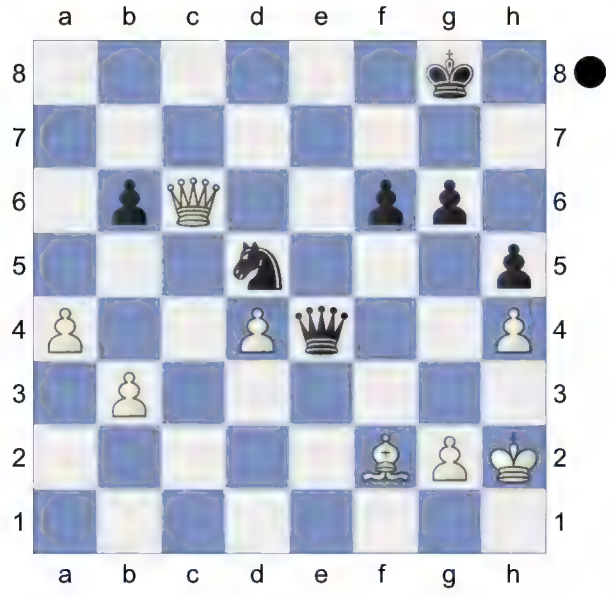
51.Qa6 Qf5 52.Qb7+ 0.23/25
[52.Qe2± 0.59/24]
52...Kh6 0.65/26
[52...Kg8= 0.23/25]



53.Qb8! Kg7 Repels Qb8-h8+
[53...Kh7 54.Qg3]
54.Qg3 Kf7 55.Qd6 Qe4

(Diagram)

56.Qd7+ Kg8 57.Qc6



Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
½-½

58 **C01**
□ **Vladimir Onischuk** **2629**
■ **Subramanian Arun Prasad** **2502**
31st Cappelle Open 2015 01.03.2015
[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

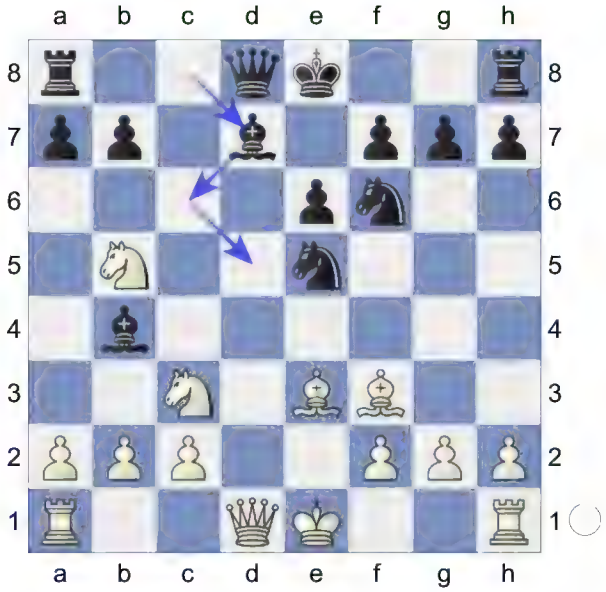
This game is a game from my study on this opening so here is the link if you wish to check it out: https://lichess.org/study/B0VjjEXy It doesn't show only this Onischuk's game but a few brilliant games in this opening including a game between FM Iwo Karolczuk and IM Yury Lapshun where Iwo sacrificed 2 pieces and a queen to get a winning endgame and it's a pretty spectacular game in my opinion.
C01: French: Exchange Variation
We're gonna skip a few boring wins against extremely weak players again. This game is another fun one though. Now, yes, George is a FM, but this one is a strong one. 2400 is a very good rating for an FM player, this guy is also young, at this point (2021) he's 19 so he is a young but solid player. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**

(Diagram)

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5 The position is equal. **9.Nc3** This is simply the main line. **9...Bb4!?** But this move isn't. It's quite an interesting one, pinning the knight to the king. It looks natural but it allows white to go into a very sharp line. **10.Ndb5** And now things become very sharp. **10...Bd7**

[10...Qxd1+ 0.45/21 10...Qd8-a5 0.02 Black can also trade the queens here. 11.Bxd1 As played between two non-titled players in 2018, instead of castling black should play Nd5N and after. Dodges Nb5-c7+. ...a7-a6 would now be deadly. 12.Bd4 Nc6! we enter a forcing line where after. Strongly threatening ...Nc6xd4. 13.Bxg7 Rg8 14.a3! Ba5 15.b4 Rxg7 16.Nxd5 exd5 17.bxa5 Kf8! getting away from the fork 18.Nc7 Rb8 19.Nxd5 Rxg2 20.Bf3 Rg5 21.0-0-0= position is equal as black will regain the pawn at some point. Not now though because there is Nf6 which poses some problems, but at some point yes.]

[10...a6 This is also a move where after 11.Qxd8+ Kxd8 12.a3 Nxf3+ 13.gxf3 axb5 14.Rd1+ Bd7 15.axb4± position is a bit better for white. This was played between Spanish FM Emilio Miguel Sanchez Jerez (who's ID number is apperently non-existent currently, no idea what's up with that FIDE) and Armenian GM Karen H Grigoryan in 2016.]



This is what Arun chose in that game. **11.a3 Bxc3+ 12.Nxc3 Nxf3+ 13.Qxf3** So, we immediately have a bunch of trades and the position is equal according to engine, but white is the one asking the questions here. **13...Qc7** Looks though like Arun didn't do his homework. Earlier the same year (this is 2015) Spanish GM (he got the GM title in 2016, he is still an IM in 2015) got this position twice and both times his opponents played the correct move Bc6 with both games being a draw.

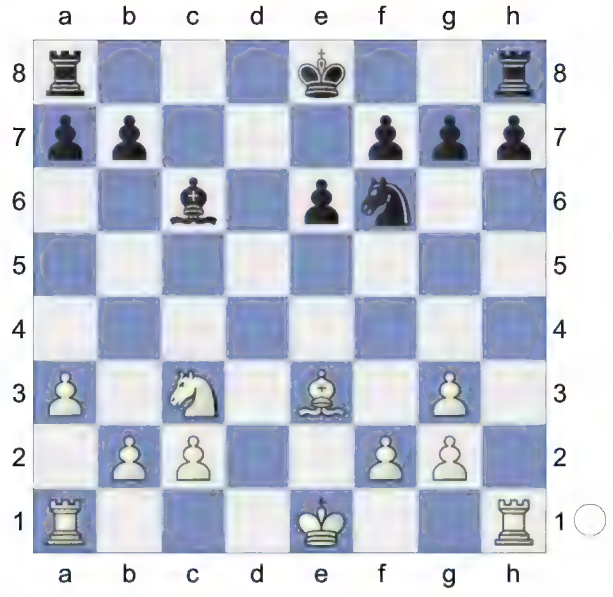
[13...Bc6 This is the correct move as now black is asking white some questions and after 14.Qg3 0-0 15.Rd1 Qa5 White must now prevent ...Nf6-e4. 16.0-0 Rfd8∞ all of a

sudden, black is fighting back and the game becomes very complicated. This is how the game between Onischuk and Stoleriu went, with Onischuk later winning the game by suffocating black making his pieces unable to move while white had a 3 on nothing pawn advantage on the queen side. Another very impressive game. 17.Bd4 Qf5 18.Rd3 Rd7 19.Rfd1 Rad8 20.Bxf6 Qxf6 21.Rxd7 Bxd7 22.Qc7 Qe7 23.Qxb7 a5 24.h3 Qe8 25.Qc7 a4 26.Nxa4 1-0 Onischuk,V (2620)-Stoleriu,G (2419) Titled 21st Dec 2021 (3)]

14.Qg3N Vladimir decided to force the queen trade here as if black declines it the g7 pawn falls and black will be in trouble.

[14.Bf4 Qb6 15.0-0-0 Bc6 16.Qe2 0-0 17.Be5 Nd7 18.Bd4 Qc7 19.Rhe1 Rfc8 20.Qg4 e5 21.Be3 Nf6 22.Qe2 6. 3...dxe4 Part II-Bb4]

14...Qxg3 15.hxg3 Bc6



The thing is, now this move doesn't work as there is. Black is weak on the dark squares **16.f3** and white is fine and can, as we'll see, slowly build up the advantage over black. Prevents Nf6-g4.

16...a6?! This is just a waste of time here, there were far better options for Arun to play.

[16...0-0 This would've been better, but I'm guessing that he was scared of 17.g4 h6 18.0-0-0 and now this would've been a chaotic fight. The thing is, this position isn't bad for black as black will play Nd5 and white needs to take that knight. So after 19.Nxd5 Bxd5= position is pretty equal because it's an opposite colour bishop endgame which is a theoretical draw.]

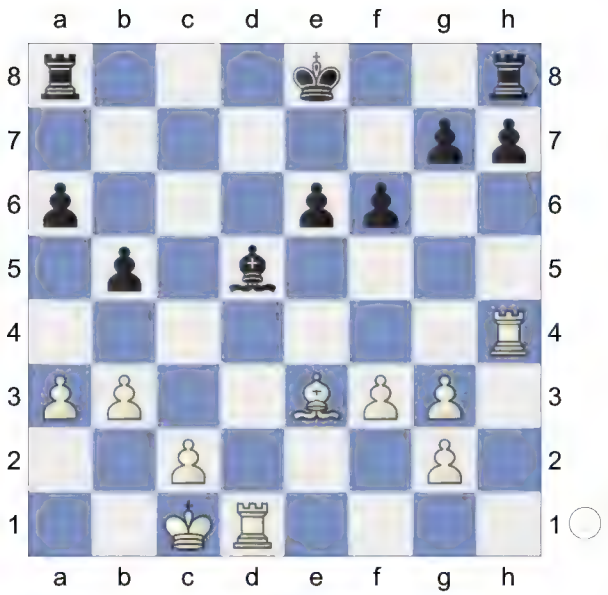
[16...Nd5 Arun could've also played this immediately and after 17.Nxd5 Bxd5 18.g4 black can delay castling and now play a6 and if 19.g5 black doesn't have to castle yet. He can though and after 0-0 20.0-0-0 f6= the position is dead equal and white cannot prove black wrong here unless black makes a dumb mistake.]

17.0-0-0?! Onischuk doesn't pick up the initiative though.

[17.Bd4! This is a move for an advantage where after Rd8 18.0-0-0 0-0 19.Na2± trying to get to b4 with a constant threat of taking on f6 and damaging black's structure. And the thing is, opposite colours bishops is a theoretical draw, but knight against a bishop isn't and that endgame is much more complicated and in this case it's better for white.]

17...Nd5 18.Nxd5 Bxd5 19.b3 b5 20.Rh4 f6

(Diagram)

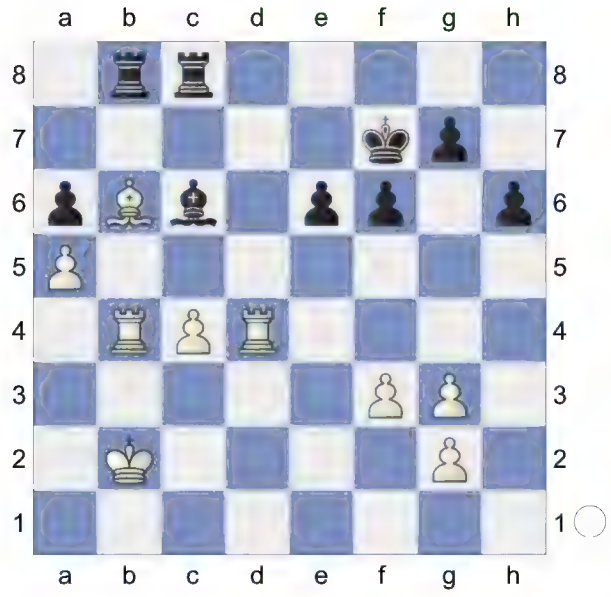


21.a4 0.23/22
[21.g4± 0.59/21]
21...Kf7= We can see that this game is equal currently. But white is stil lthe one who's asking the questions. Overall, what Onischuk is really good at in these positions is proving that his queen side majority is all he needs to win the game. **22.Kb2 h6 23.Rb4 Bc6 24.Rd6** Infultrating with the rook to the 6th rank trying to get the control of it. **24...Rhc8 25.a5** With this move a6 is forever a weakness. Even though this is an opposite colours bishops endgame this gives white his chances.
[25.axb5 It's not really a good idea to take here as after
A) 25...Bxb5?? 1.09/22 25...a6xb5 0.10 This though would've been a huge blunder as it does allow c4 and after 26.c4 Bc6? 2.79/23 there is a crushing *(26...Ke7* The only way for black not to lose immediately. After *27.Rd1 Bc6 28.Rb6±* white is still better though. Simply this pressure is extremely strong and again, slowly but surely, black will collapse.*;* *26...Ke7±* 1.27/24 might work better.*)* 27.Rb6+- and after Be8 28.Rxa6+- white has 2 on nothing and is just simply winning because of that.;
B) 25...axb5= white doesn't have a way to continue pressuring black and the position is completely defended. It's opposite colours position again, it's equal. The reason for it is that b5 is still easy to defend as white's DSB cannot attack it and that move stops any kind of c4 ideas.]
25...Rab8 0.84/23
[25...e5± 0.33/23]

26.Bb6 0.16/22 White has more active pieces.
[26.Rbd4!± 0.84/23]
26...Ke7 27.Rd2 Bd5 28.Rdd4 Kf7 29.c4! This move is really important as it gives white a past pawn. **29...bxc4 30.bxc4 Bc6**
[30...Ba8? 1.73/23 30...Bd5-c6 0.18 Returning this way losses because it allows 31.Rd7+! and after Kg6 32.Ra7 white wins the pawn and is simply better. If black tries to protect

the pawn with Bb7 2.27/22 then white plays *(32...e5± 1.47/19* was called for. *33.Rxa6 e4)* 33.Kc3!+- with a threat of Be3 which would simply win the bishop as if Rc7, then c4-c5-c6 and the bishop is gone. So black will ahve to give up the pawn on a6 and white simply has 2 past pawns black cannot stop.]

[30...Bb7?? This simply losses to 31.Ba7+- and black resigns.]



Only move! **31.Kc3 h5 32.Rh4 Rh8 33.Be3 Rxb4!** Arun must trade the rooks here, as if he doesn't he will be in a much worse position.

[33...Ra8?? 1.91/22 33...Rb8xb4 0.11 If Arun had decided to instead protect the a6 pawn like this and not trade the rooks, after 34.Rb6! he is much worse. He cannot retreat the bishop anywhere and whatever he does he is lost.

A) 34...Bd7?? 4.61/22 34...Rh8-c8 1.98 This losses to a simple 35.Rb7! and after Ke8 now instead of g4 there is actually an even better move (even though g4 is still a valid idea) 36.Rd4 and if black retreats with Ba4 6.93/22 *(36...Rd8* Trying to protect the bishop losses to *37.Rd6* and white is threatening to play Bb6 and destroy black as black cannot defend this position.*; ⌓36...Rd8* 4.64/27 *37.Rd6 Bc8 38.Rxd8+ Kxd8 39.Bb6+ Ke8)* 37.Rd6+- black is lost and cannot stop all threats.;

B) 34...Ba4?? This simply losses to 35.Rb7+ and after Kg8 2.78/23 *(⌓35...Kf8* 1.82/23 *36.Kb4 Be8)* 36.Kb4+- attacking the bishop, it doesn't matter where black will go as white will play Rd4-Rd6 and again obliterate black on the 6th rank or he will play Rb6 and do the same. e.g. Be8 37.Rb6 e5 white doesn't even have to get a pawn and can just play 38.c5+- and this pawn is just going. Black has to give up the a6 pawn and then white gets another past pawn and black is just lost.;

C) 34...Be8 This losses to a simple 35.g4+- and black cannot take, he'll lose the pawn and the game as white is about to get in.]

34.Kxb4 Endgame. KRB-KRB **34...Rb8+?!** This isn't a good idea. Now h5 is a lost pawn.

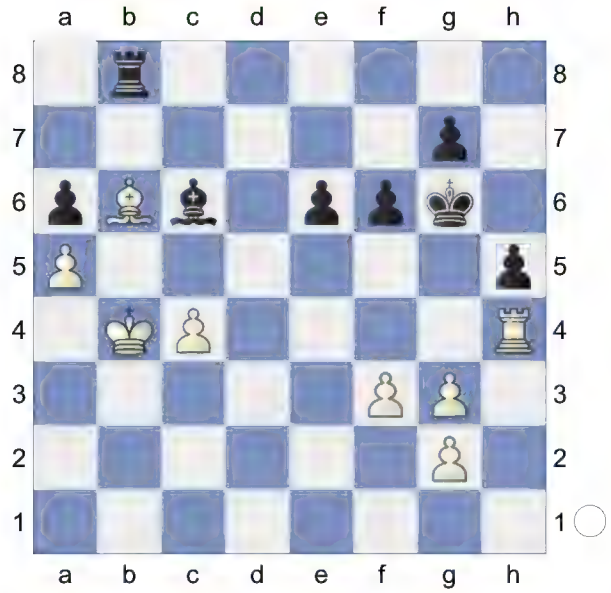
[34...g5! Black had to kick out the rook and after 35.Rh1 there is this incredible move Ba8!? and white cannot make any progress. If white tries to advance the pawn with 36.c5?? -1.26/23 then after *(36.Bb6± 0.60/20* stays ahead.*)* 36...Rb8+!∓ 37.Kc3-+ white is actually losing as he needs to stop black from getting to b2 and destroying his backrank pawns

and now black can take the initiative in his hands. *(37.Kc4??* This is even worse for white after *Rb2 38.Rxh5 Rxg2* and now white is in a lot of trouble. Best try is after *39.Rh7+ Kg6 40.Ra7* but simply after *Bxf3-+* white cannot take the pawn as there is Be2+ winning the rook. Here black is just crushing white. *)*]

35.Bb6 Kg6?? 1.50/26

[35...g6! Black must defend the pawn like this as now white's idea 36.Kc5 Rc8 37.Kd6 aiming for Bb6-c7. e5 38.Bc7 doesn't work after Bb7 39.c5 0.01/22 and the only move to draw the game is *(39.Kd7!±* 0.79/23 *)* 39...Re8! with Re6+ incoming getting the king of black's theritory and saving the game.]

[Black should try 35...g6± 0.37/27]



And with this move black is lost. This now allows white to come in with his king and you shouldn't allow that even in an opposite colours bishops endgame.

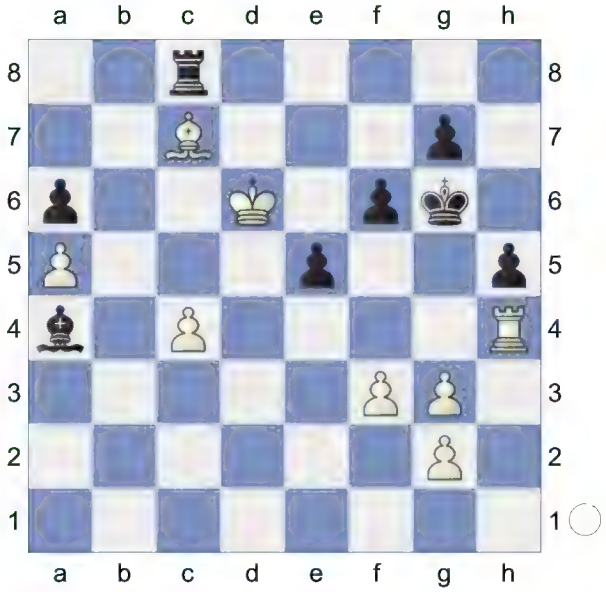
36.Kc5!± Rc8 3.09/25

[⌓36...Be8 1.73/24]

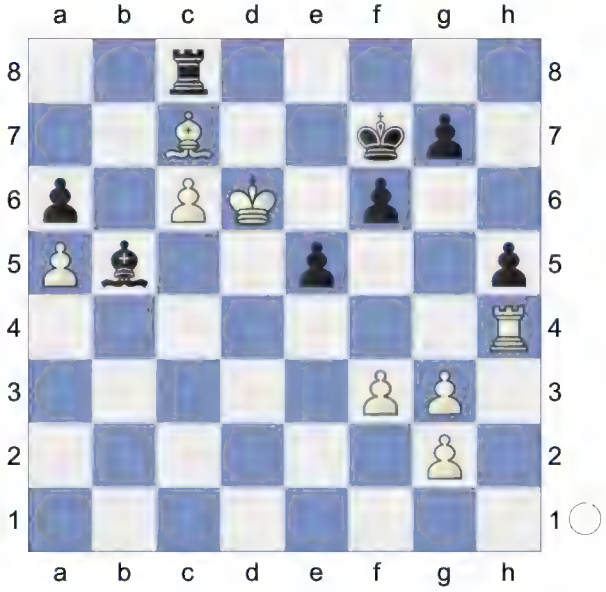
37.Kd6!+- e5 38.Bc7! Those 3 were the only moves to win as Onischuk needs to get to the backrank in order to have a chance at promoting his pawn.

38...Ba4

[38...Bb7 Here this idea to stop white doesn't work as after 39.c5 Re8 40.c6+- Re6+ isn't possible because the king isn't protecting the rook!]

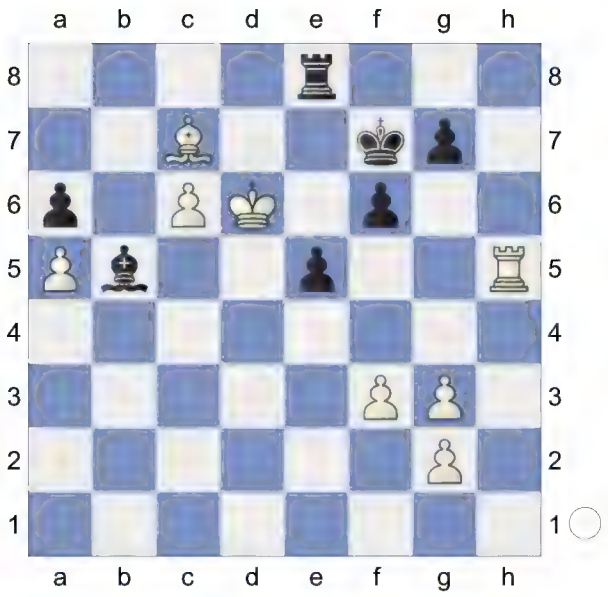


39.c5! Bb5 40.c6 Kf7

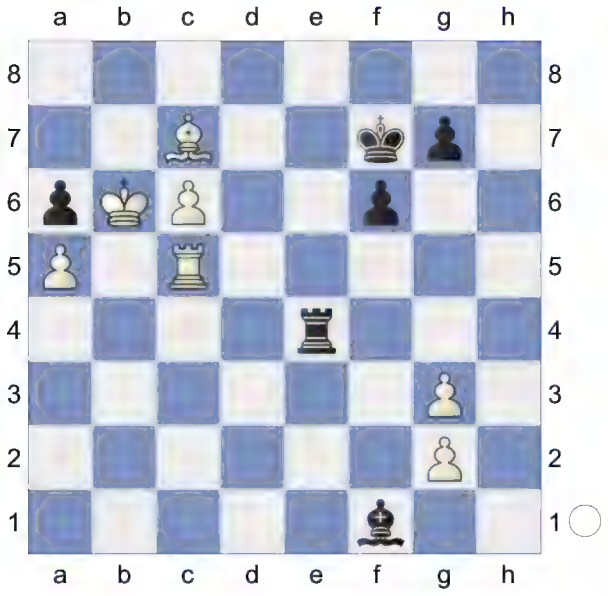


41.Rxh5 Re8

(Diagram)

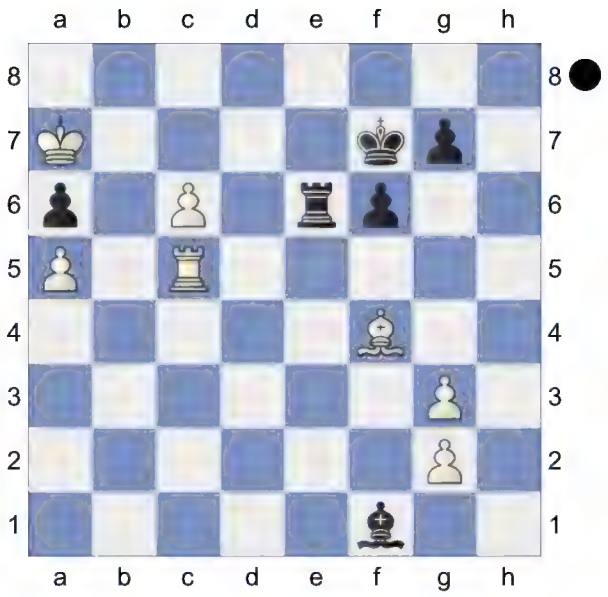


42.Kc5! Point is to play Bd6 and continue advancing the pawn. **42...e4 43.fxe4 Rxe4 44.Kb6** As you can see, Arun simply cannot do anything. For my League of Legends enjoyers, this is equivalent to getting ulted by Caitlyn every respawn and her ultimate just one shots you every respawn. You cannot do anything to that. Threatens to win with Rh5xb5. White is clearly winning. **44...Be2 45.Rc5 Bf1**



46.Bf4 Re6 47.Ka7

(Diagram)



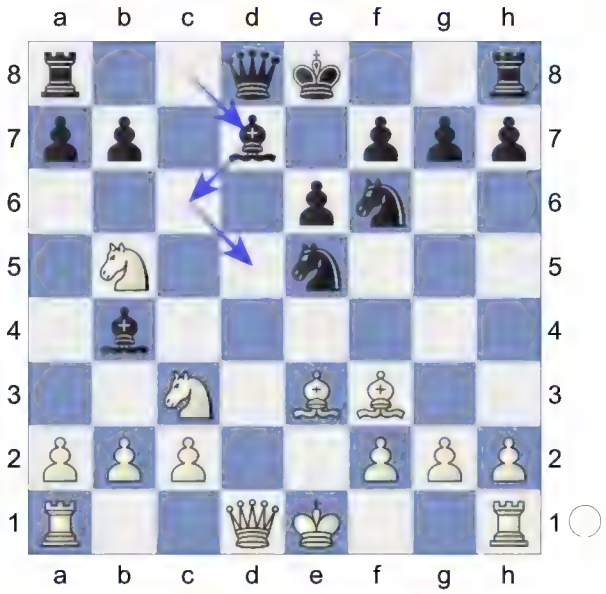
And here Arun just resigned as he simply cannot do anything to stop white from promoting his c6 pawn.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.23 (precise)
1-0

59 **C01**
□ **Onischuk,V** **2629**
■ **Arun Prasad,S** **2502**
31. Open 2015 (2.8) 01.03.2015
[Kitty Kat]

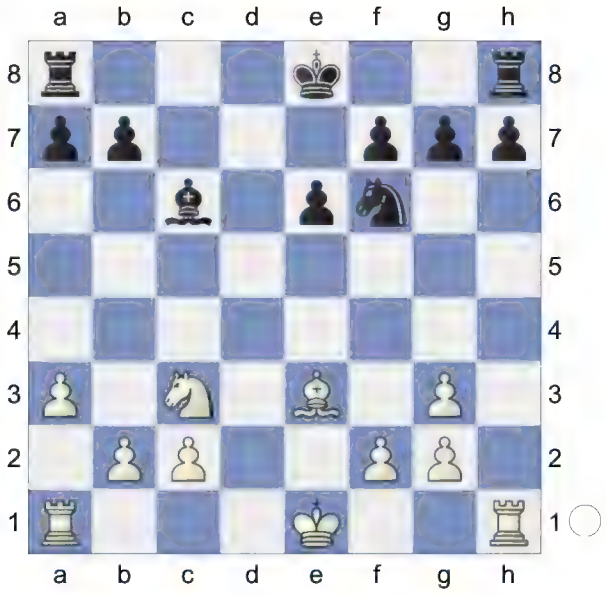
C01: French: Exchange Variation
https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'We're gonna skip a few boring wins against extremely weak players again. This game is another fun one though. Now, yes, George is a FM, but this one is a strong one. 2400 is a very good rating for an FM player, this guy is also young, at this point (2021) he's 19 so he is a young but solid player.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**

(Diagram)

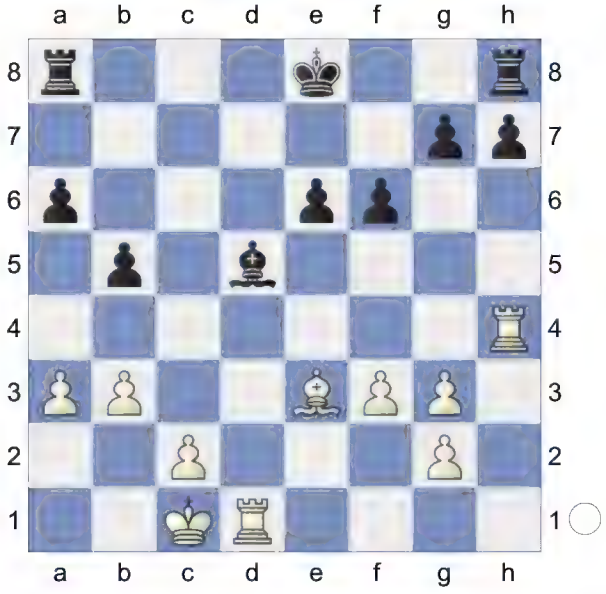
6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5
The position is equal. **9.Nc3 Bb4 10.Ndb5 Bd7**



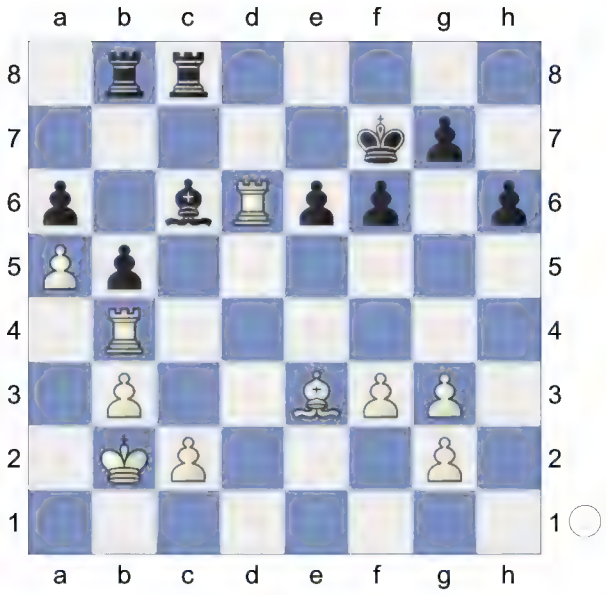
11.a3 Bxc3+
[11...Nxf3+ feels hotter. 12.Qxf3 Bc6 13.Qg3 Bxc3+ 14.Nxc3]
12.Nxc3 Nxf3+ 13.Qxf3 Qc7 0.58/19
[13...Bc6= 0.00/21 14.Qg3 0-0 15.Rd1 Qa5 16.0-0 Rfd8 17.Bd4 Qf5 18.Rd3 Rd7 19.Rfd1 Rad8 20.Bxf6 Qxf6 21.Rxd7 Bxd7 22.Qc7 Qe7 23.Qxb7 a5 24.h3 Qe8 25.Qc7 a4 26.Nxa4 1-0 Onischuk,V (2620)-Stoleriu,G (2419) Titled 21st Dec 2021 (3)]
14.Qg3N
[14.Bf4 Qb6 15.0-0-0 Bc6 16.Qe2 0-0 17.Be5 Nd7 18.Bd4 Qc7 19.Rhe1 Rfc8 20.Qg4 e5 21.Be3 Nf6 22.Qe2 6. 3...dxe4 Part II-Bb4]
14...Qxg3 15.hxg3 Bc6



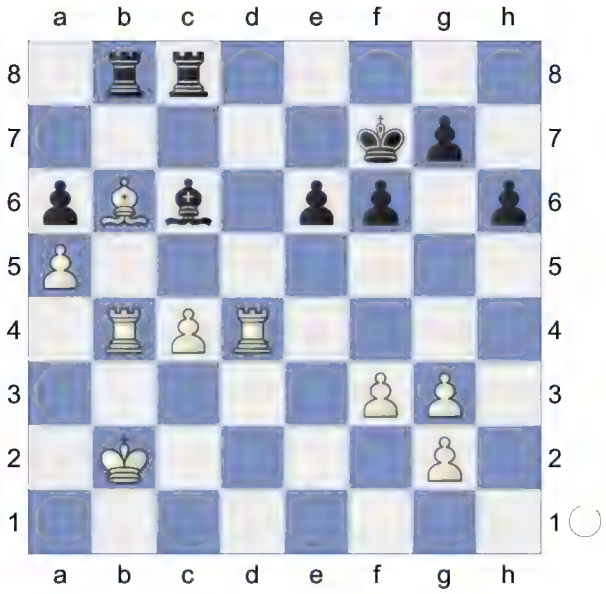
Black is weak on the dark squares **16.f3**
Dodges Nf6-g4 **16...a6 17.0-0-0 Nd5 18.Nxd5 Bxd5 19.b3 b5 20.Rh4 f6**



21.a4 Kf7 22.Kb2 h6 23.Rb4 Bc6 24.Rd6 Rhc8 25.a5! Rab8

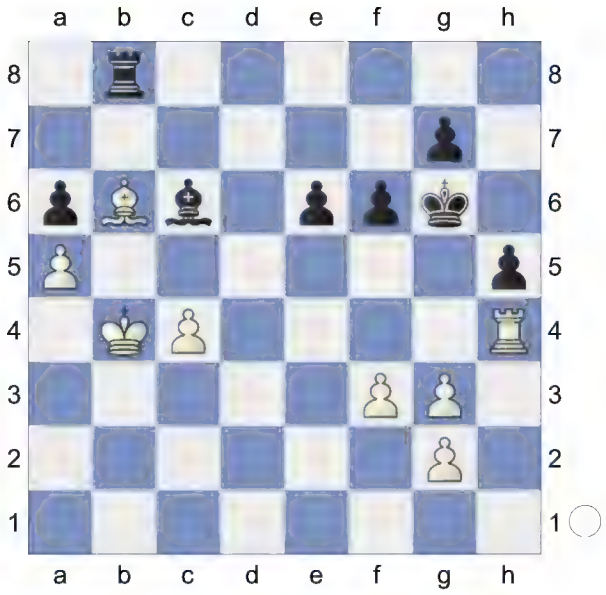


26.Bb6 0.11/23
[26.Rbd4± 0.59/23]
26...Ke7 27.Rd2 Bd5 28.Rdd4 Kf7 29.c4 bxc4 30.bxc4 Bc6

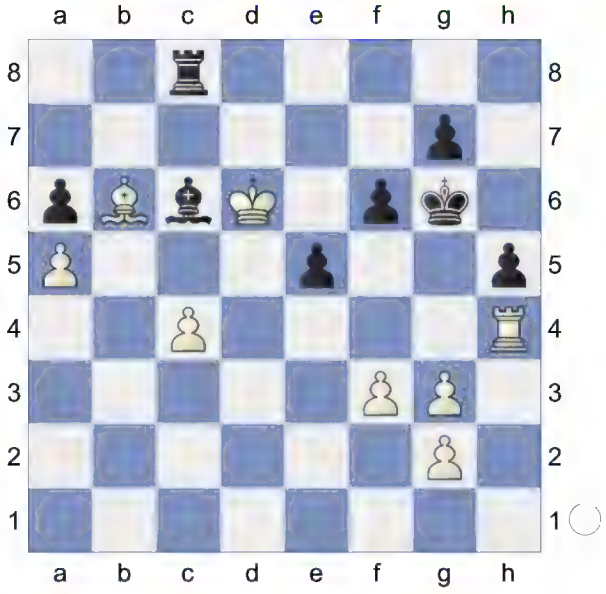


31.Kc3 h5 32.Rh4 Rh8 33.Be3 Rxb4 34.Kxb4 Endgame. KRB-KRB
34...Rb8+ 35.Bb6 Kg6 1.54/25
[Black should play 35...g6± 0.62/24]

(Diagram)

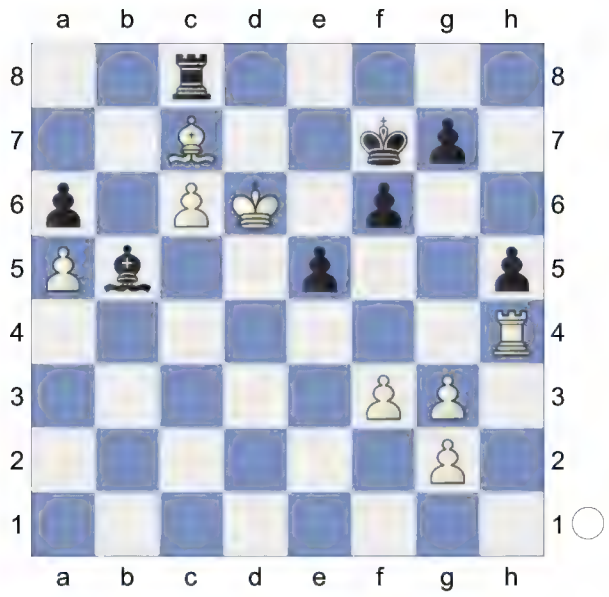


36.Kc5!± Rc8 2.35/23
[36...Ba4 1.86/25 was called for.]
37.Kd6+- e5

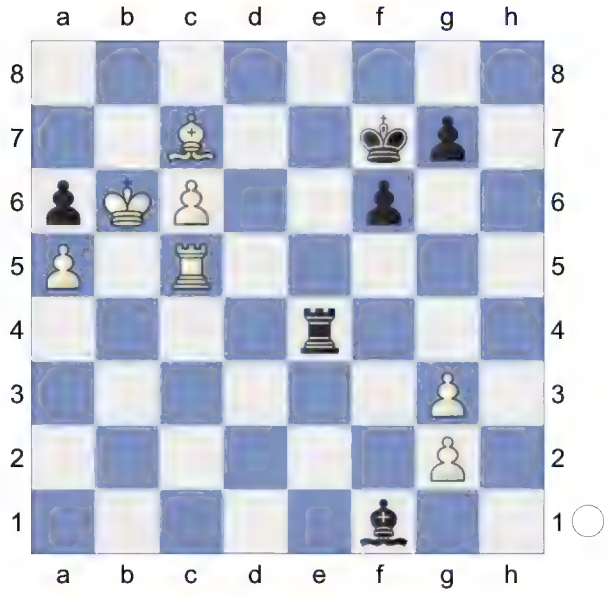


38.Bc7! Ba4 39.c5 Bb5 40.c6 Kf7

(Diagram)

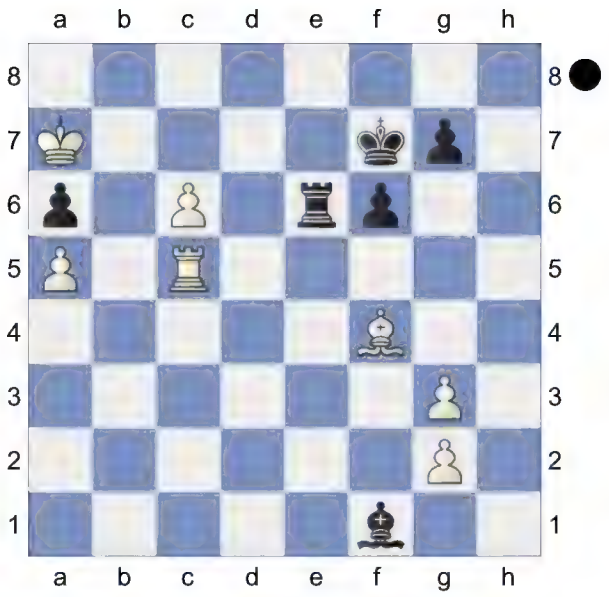


41.Rxh5 Re8 42.Kc5 e4 4.04/20
[42...Rc8 2.84/20 might work better. 43.Kb6 Bf1]
43.fxe4 Rxe4 44.Kb6 aiming for Rh5xb5. White is clearly winning.
44...Be2 45.Rc5 Bf1



46.Bf4 Re6 47.Ka7

(Diagram)

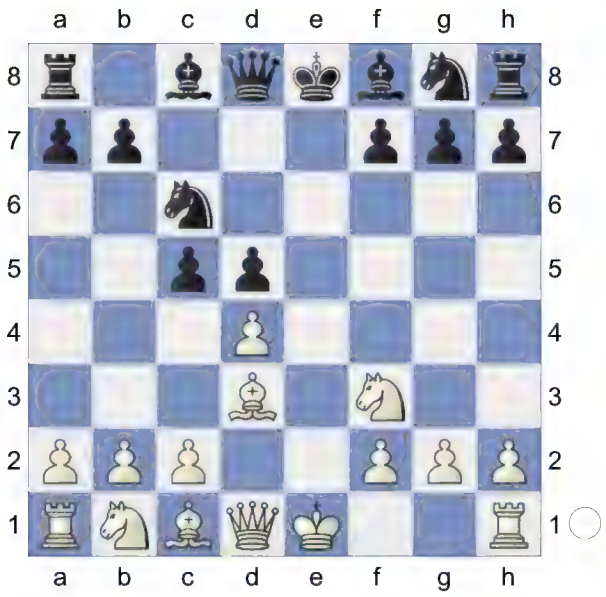


Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.22 (precise)
1-0

60 **C01**
□ **Onischuk,V** **2633**
■ **Vastrukhin,Oleg** **2401**
Titled 1. Sept (8) 01.09.2020
[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

And welcome to Titled Tuesday in 2020 because a certain virus is going around and everyone is at home. Not many OTB tournaments and everyone is looking at their computer playing chess. No wonder Netflix said that chess players are on drugs.
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.exd5 exd5 5.Nf3 Nc6

(Diagram)



This is absolutely a line where you actually let white castle before playing c4. **6.0-0 c4 7.Re1+ Be7 8.Bf1** The position is equal.

[8.Be2 Retreating here makes no sense since the rook is on the e-file.]

[8.Bxc4!! This is also possible. It does require precision from white though. dxc4 9.d5 Here knight has 3 ways to retreat.

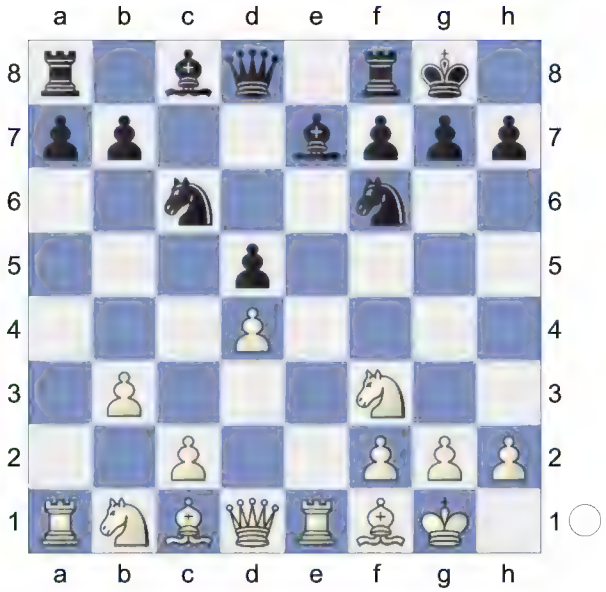
A) 9...Nb8? 0.69/19 9...Nc6-b4 0.30 This is bad for the same reasons as Na5. 10.Nc3 Kf8 11.Bf4 Everything is on this pawn.;

B) 9...Na5? This is a mistake as there is now 10.Nc3 *(10.d6 This is possible, but after Be6! 11.dxe7 Qxd1 12.Rxd1 Nxe7±* black is almost equal which is not what white wants.*)* 10...Kf8! 11.Bf4 and this might look lunacris since you're down a piece. The argument though is that d pawn is so powerful that white being down a piece doesn't matter and the engine likes this position a lot for white. Of course, this isn't very human like and probably wouldn't've been played in a million years from now and if it was then Vladimir Kramnik would come and be right for once.;

C) 9...Qc7!?;

D) 9...Nb4! Now here you must go d6 as black is attacking that pawn. 10.d6 Be6! 11.a3! *(11.dxe7? -2.39/19* 11.a2-a3 0.08 Taking immediately is losing because after *Qxd1 12.Rxd1 Nxc2-+* you can resign.*)* 11...Nc6 12.dxe7=]

8...Nf6 9.b3 Very important to fight against black's c pawn immediately. **9...cxb3 10.axb3 0-0**



11.h3N Preventing things from going to g4.

[11.Ne5 Ne4 *(11...Bf5 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Ba3 Bxa3 14.Rxa3 Re8 15.Rxe8+ Qxe8 16.Nc3 Ne4 17.Na4 Qe7 18.Ra1 Re8 19.Bd3 Bg6 20.f3 Ng5 21.Bxg6 hxg6 22.Qd2 Ne6 23.Re1 Qd8 24.Kf1 Qd6 25.g3 Kf8 26.Qe3* 1-0 (40) Kazantzoglou,S (2085)-Injac,T (2453) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Jan Early blitz 2025 (2) *)* 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Qf3 *(13.f3 Ng5 14.Nc3 Bb4 15.Bd2 Bd6*

16.Ne2 Qf6 17.Qc1 Ne6 18.c3 a5 19.b4 Bc7 20.bxa5 h5 21.Kh1 Ba6 22.Ng1 Bxf1 23.Rxf1 Rxa5 24.Rxa5 Bxa5 25.Nh3 Rb8 26.Qc2 Bc7 27.Rb1 Ra8 ½-½ (49) Gaponenko,I (2418)-Piankov,E (2326) La Fere op 1st 2002 (5)*)* 13...Qb6 14.Ra4 a5 15.Bd3 f5 16.Ba3 Bxa3 17.Nxa3 Nc3 18.Nc4 Qxd4 19.Rxa5 Rxa5 20.Nxa5 Bd7 21.Re7 Ne4 22.Rxd7 Qa1+ 23.Bf1 Qxa5 24.Qe3 Qa1 25.f3 f4 ½-½ (44) Kamenskyi,D (2030)-Boehme,S (2215) Bavaria-ch 94th 2023 (3)]

11...Bf5 12.c4 And here c4 in a classic Onischuk way. **12...a6 13.Nc3 Re8?!** This isn't the best option, really here what Oleg should've done is played Bb4.

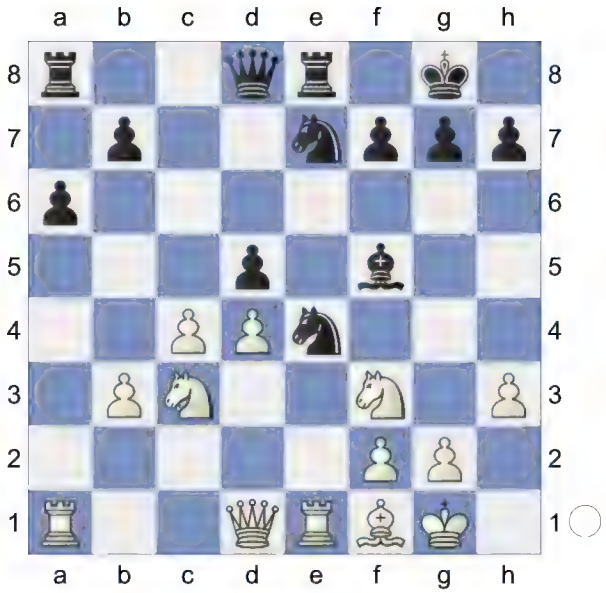
[13...Bb4 This pin is very strong, it takes the pressure of the center almost completely and it makes the bishop very active. Overall looking at black's bishops, they're very strong while white's bishops are on their home squares. 14.Re3 Rc8 15.Ra4 a5 16.Bb2= Something like this is what could happen in that position and it's very complicated, overall a lot of the things are happening on the c-file.]

14.Bg5 Ne4 15.Bxe7

[15.Nxd5? Bxg5 *(15...Nxg5 16.Nxg5 Bxg5 17.Rxe8+ Qxe8 18.Nc7=)* 16.Ra2 Re6-+]

15...Nxe7

(Diagram)



Now that white got rid of black's DSB for the cost of his own, there won't be any problems for white against the c3 knight which can now get rid of black's strong center knight. **16.Nxe4 Bxe4**

[16...dxe4?! Taking like this is possible and might seem logical since you're getting rid of the isolated pawn and are able to protect it with f5. 17.Ne5 f6 18.Ng4± The thing is though, after Ne3-c5-Nc4 this pawn on e4 which was on d5 doesn't control c4 in and the knight can move more freely.]

17.Ne5 f6 0.93/20

[17...Ng6± 0.40/17]

18.Ng4 0.53/16

[White should try 18.Nd3± 0.93/20]

18...Bg6 19.Ne3 There is pressure on the center, but white's knight doesn't have access to c4 due to the d5 pawn. White has more active pieces. **19...Bf7 20.Bd3 Nc6**

(Diagram)

21.cxd5 Trying to put a piece on c4. Yes, now white's structure is awful, but if you're able to put a piece on c4 it is worth doing this. **21...Nb4**

[21...Bxd5?? 4.81/22 21...Nc6-b4 0.62 You cannot take with the bishop as after 22.Nxd5 Qxd5 11.40/22 *(⌓22...Rxe1+ 4.81/21 23.Qxe1 Qd6)* 23.Bc4+- and you lose the queen.]

22.Rc1?! This isn't good as now black can take on d5.

[22.Bc4 Just save the bishop and protect the pawn, now black still cannot take it as if he does, after Nxd5 1.18/21 *(⌓22...Kh8 0.77/20)* 23.Nxd5± Black must now prevent Re1xe8+. Rxe1+ 24.Qxe1 Bxd5 25.Qe4 and black has to fix your structure with Bxc4 26.bxc4± giving white advantage due to his strong past d pawn.]

22...Nxd3?! 0.67/20 You don't wanna trade here as white is already much more active due to having a c-file for himself. You really wanna grab the pawn on d5 with a knight as then you can trade everything and equalize.

[22...Nxd5 Black can take like this because, unlike after 22. Bc4, black doesn't have any problems. 23.Bc4 If this, then after Nxe3 24.Bxf7+ Kxf7 25.Rxe3 Rxe3 26.fxe3= position is equal. White has a past pawn, but his b pawn can be a weakness and his e pawn can be one as well.]

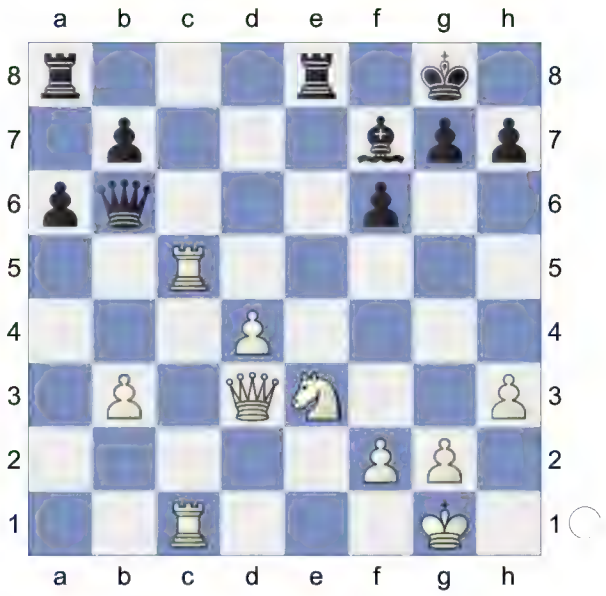
[22...Qd6= 0.28/21 was preferrable.]

23.Qxd3± Bxd5 24.Rc5 Very important move, now you'll be able to push the pawn and also stack up on the c-file.

[24.Nxd5? 0.29/24 24.Re1-d1 0.81 No reason to do this. Qxd5 25.Rxe8+ Rxe8= The position is equal due to white having more pawn islands and material being equal here. Yes, white has a past pawn that black has to deal with, but because of the b pawn being weak and black having a 2 on 1 on the queen side, black can have some counterplay and it's equal.]

24...Bf7 25.Rec1 Qb6

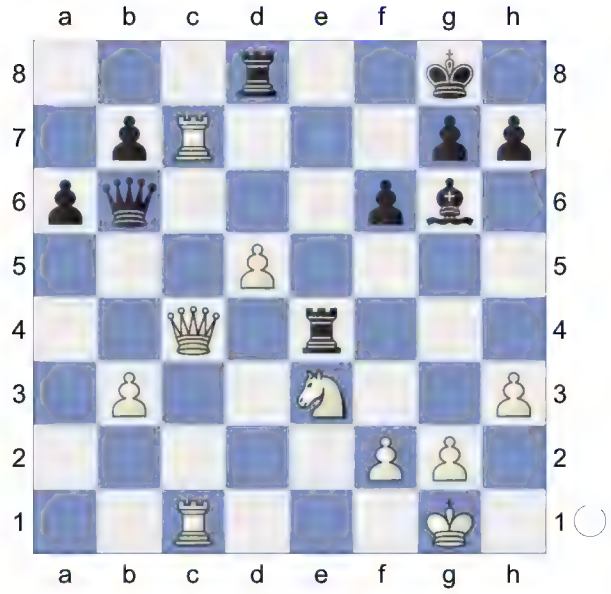
[25...Re7 Engine wants this from black so that white cannot get to the 7th rank and so that the rook can go to d7 to blockade the pawn.]



26.d5 Here we go. This d pawn is a

nightmare for black as it's a huge threat to black's position. **26...Rad8** **27.Rc7** This rook is gonna be a menace, just like the Darth Maul was. **27...Bg6** **28.Qc4** **Re4** 1.28/25

[⌓28...Kf8 0.77/20]



29.Qc3?! 0.80/23 Wrong square.

[29.Qc5! You want to trade queens here. Why? You've got a past pawn and your rook is on the 7th rank and black cannot deal with all of that. Qxc5 30.R1xc5 Rb4

31.Re7! Rxb3 32.Rcc7+- These rooks are just much stronger than anything in black's position and white will go on to win this game.]

[⌓29.Qc5! 1.28/25 Qxc5 30.R1xc5]

29...Rb4 1.33/24 You shouldn't allow Re7 as that let's white come down with the other rook.

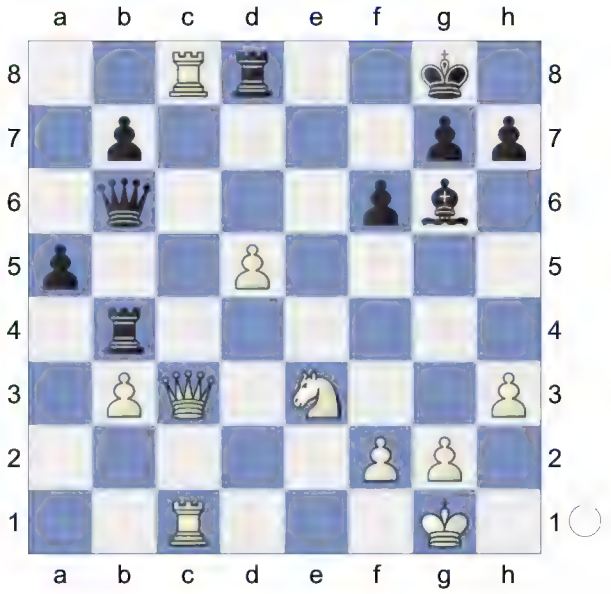
[29...Kf8]

[⌓29...Kf8 0.80/23]

30.Rc8± As you might know, when you want to win an endgame, you want to trade 1 pair of rooks. **30...a5??** 7.91/26

[30...Re4! Why is this not completely losing? Because your rook can drop back and come to replace the rook on d8 in the blockade. 31.Rxd8+ Qxd8 32.Qc5 d5-d6 is the strong threat. Re7± As you can see, if it doesn't replace it can also drop to e7 and go to d7, protecting the 7th rank and blockading the pawn. White is better, but black can try to defend this, it's far from over.]

[30...Re4± 1.30/26 31.Rxd8+ Qxd8]



Sadly for Oleg, only 1 move wasn't immediately losing and it was really hard

to find. The reason why this is losing is that after d6, black's b4 rook cannot go to the 7th rank and cannot help with the defense of it or blockade the d pawn. **31.Qc5??** 0.37/20 But Onischuk missed it as well! White still has some chances after the queen trade as he has pressure on b3 and will have 2 on nothing on the queen side.

[31.d6! This was simply winning. Yes, you're sacrificing the pawn, but black cannot take it as after Qxd6 *(31...Be8* Black can try with Be8 as now the rook isn't under attack after Qxd6, but after *32.Qd3* the pawn is protected and black is losing. As if *Qxd6 33.Rxd8+-* x-ray vision protection, black is gonna be down a full rook.*)* 32.Rd1+- x-ray vision, black's rook is under attack and black has to sacrifice the queen and will lose the game.]

[31.d6+- 7.91/26 Be8 32.Qd3 Qxd6 33.Rxd8 Qxd3 34.Rxd3]

31...Qxc5!± **32.Rxd8+** This is the reason why it's equal, black isn't gonna be down a rook after

[32.R1xc5 Rxc8 33.Rxc8+ Kf7]

[32.R8xc5 simplifies Rxb3 33.Rxa5 Rd7 34.Rc4]

32...Qf8! sacrificing the queen back to white. What's even more important is that white shouldn't take yet. **33.Rxf8+** But white does and now black is actually better.

[33.Rcc8 White should go down so that after Qxd8! 34.Rxd8+ so that this is a check and after Kf7 35.Ra8= this pawn on a5 is gonna be lost and it's a draw.]

33...Kxf8= Endgame. KRB-KRN **34.d6** And now Rc1-c8+ would win. **34...Rd4?** 0.01/22 The thing is though, this is now equal because of Rc8+ and the king is too far away and has to stay at f7 as played in the game and cannot come to block the pawns path.

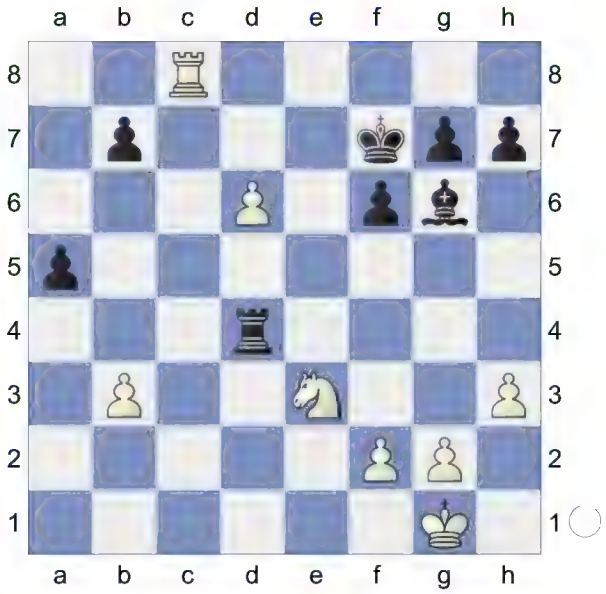
[34...Ke8! If black had played this which is the only move for an advantage as now there is no Rc8+. 35.Rc7 Rxb3! 36.Rxg7 Hoping for Ne3-d5. Kd8! This is now better for black because the king blocks the pawns way and black just has a 2 on nothing on the queen side.]

[34...Rxb3? 35.Rc8+ Kf7 36.d7+-]

[Better is 34...Ke8!∓ -0.58/25 35.Rc7 Rxb3]

35.Rc8+ Kf7 0.72/20

[35...Be8= 0.01/22 remains equal.]



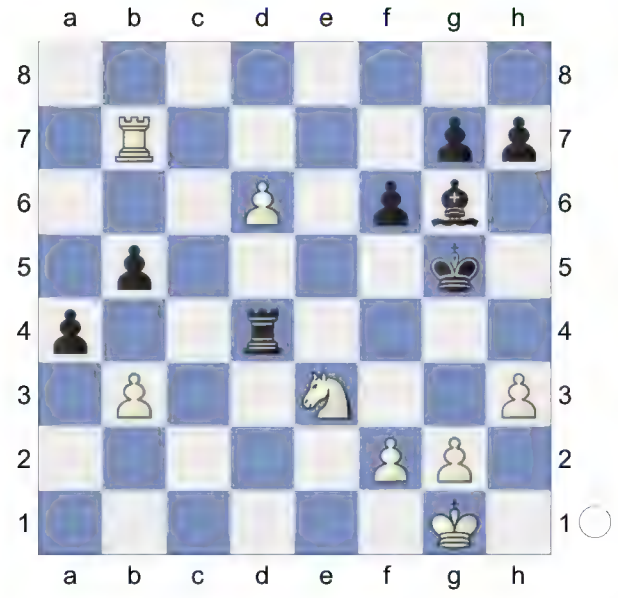
36.Rc7+ 0.12/23

[White should play 36.Rb8± 0.72/20]

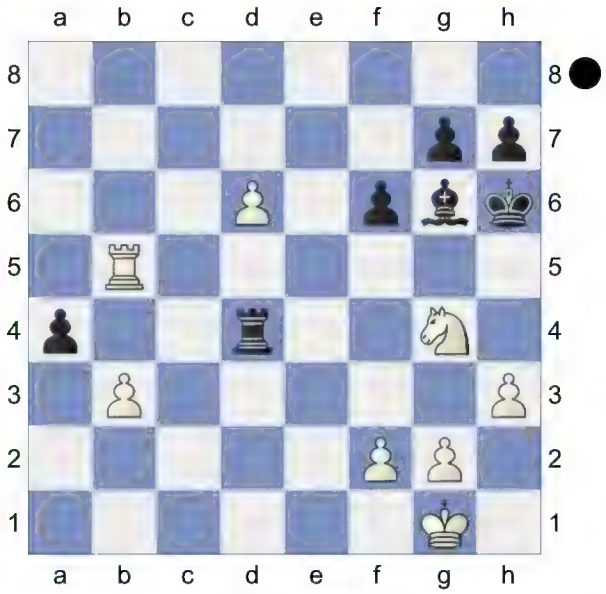
36...Ke6? 0.97/22 After this now white is better because Nc4 protects the pawn and Re7+ kicks the king away from the pawn.

[36...Kf8! This is still a draw, as after 37.Rxb7 Rxd6= neither side has past pawns, queen side pawns cancel each other out and it's complete

equality.]
[36...Kf8= 0.12/23 keeps the balance.]
37.Nc4!±
[37.Rxb7 simplifies Kxd6 38.Nc4+ Ke6 39.Nxa5 Rd7 40.Rb8]
37...b5 38.Re7+!
[38.Nxa5?! Rd1+ 39.Kh2 Kxd6 40.Rc6+ Ke7=]
38...Kf5
[38...Kd5? 39.d7 *(39.Nxa5 Kxd6 40.Rxg7 Kc5∓)* 39...Rd1+ 40.Kh2+-]
39.Ne3+ Kg5 40.Rb7
[40.Rxg7 Rxd6 41.Rb7 Bd3]
40...a4?? 4.97/19
[40...Kf4 This would've still held the game as 41.Rxb5 doesn't come with a check and Rxd6 is possible. 42.Rxa5± White is up a pawn and is much better, but this is maybe holdable for black.]
[40...b4± 0.78/22 is more resistant.]



And this just blunders the game after Rxb5+ **41.Rxb5++- Kh6** 14.06/24
[41...Kf4 11.83/21 41...f6-f5 4.96 This wouldn't've been any better, as after 42.Nd5++- the rook doesn't see the pawn anymore and it will promote and the a pawn will be traded off.]
[⌓41...f5 5.11/24 42.Rd5 Rxd5 43.Nxd5 Be8 44.bxa4 *(44.Nb6? a3-+)* 44...Bxa4]
42.Ng4+ 5.17/5
[⌓42.d7 14.06/24 Bc2 43.Rd5 *(43.Nxc2 Rd1+ 44.Kh2 axb3+-)* 43...Rxd5 44.Nxd5 Bxb3 45.d8Q *(45.d8R Kg6+-)*]

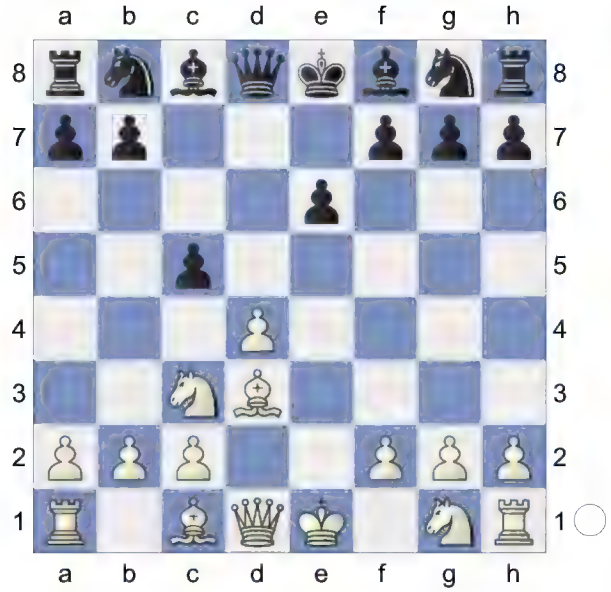


Here Oleg resigned as he has to give up a rook for the knight and will just lose the game.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.31/ Black=0.39
1-0

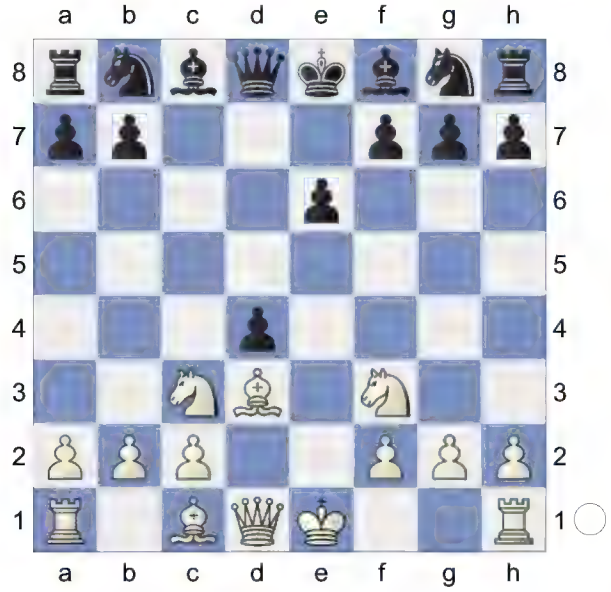
61 **C01**
□ **Hastings Variation,With Bxf6** **2360**
■ **Sherlock,Andrew** **2581**
50/207 Groningen (4) 21.02.2023
[Kittty kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.exd5

Qxd5 5.Nc3 Qd8

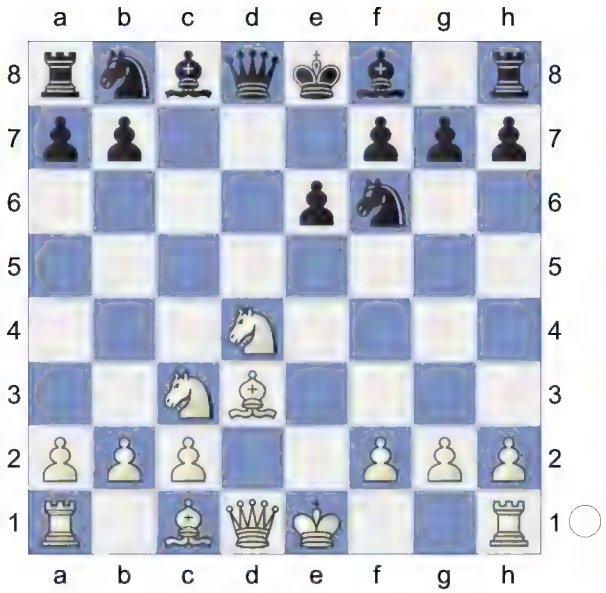


6.Nf3 cxd4



7.Nxd4 Nf6

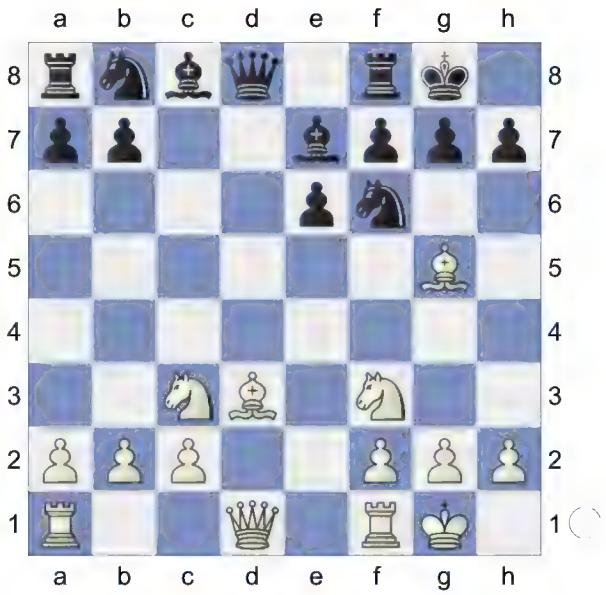
(Diagram)



8.0-0! White is slightly better. **8...Bc5**
[8...Be7 9.Re1]

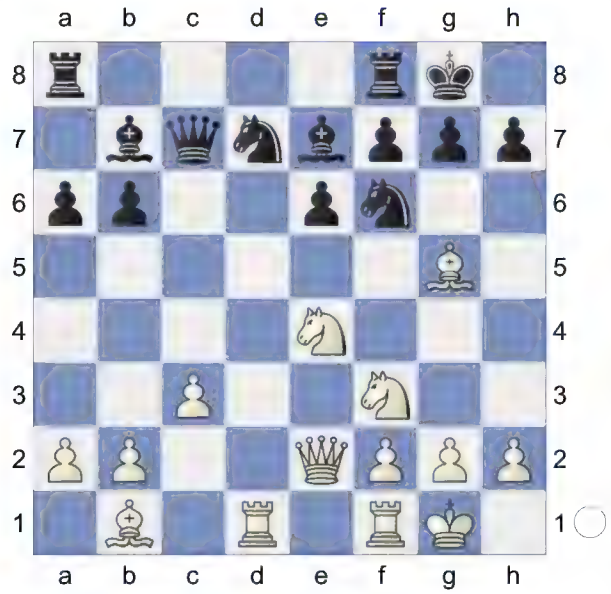
9.Nf3 0-0N
[9...Nc6 10.Qe2 h6 11.a3 Bd7 12.Rd1 a6 13.Ne4 Be7 14.Bf4 Nd5 15.Nd6+ Kf8 16.Bg3 Bc8 17.Bc4 Bxd6 18.Bxd5 Bxg3 19.Bxc6 Bd6 20.Qe5 Ke7 21.Rxd6 Qxd6 22.Qxg7 Rd8 23.h3 bxc6 24.Ne5 1-0 (34) Du, S (2361)-4.Ne4 Bf5 5.Nc5 Qb6 (2521) Deutschland 83/393 2001 (3)]

10.Bg5 Be7



11.Qe2 Nbd7 12.Rad1 a6 13.Ne4

Qc7 14.c3 b6 15.Bb1 0.21/20
[15.Nxf6+± 0.58/18 Nxf6 16.Ne5]
15...Bb7=

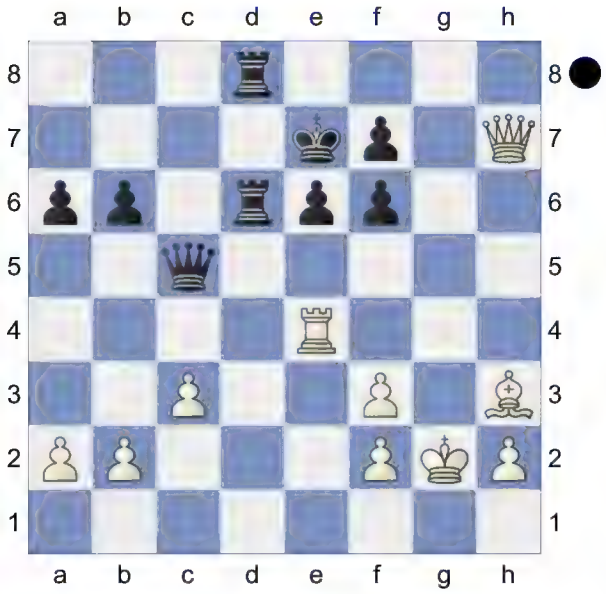


16.Rxd7 -0.35/20 **Qxd7∓ 17.Rd1** -0.86/23
[17.Nxf6+!= -0.01/22 keeps the balance. gxf6 18.Bh6]
17...Qc7∓ 18.Nxf6+ Bxf6 19.Qc2 -1.40/23
[⌓19.Bxf6 -0.75/22 gxf6 20.Ne1]
19...Rfd8 20.Qxh7+ Kf8

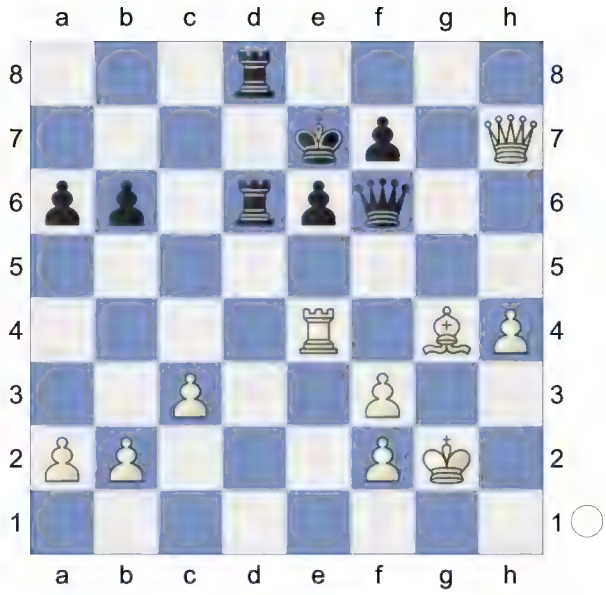
Dancing on a razor blade. **21.Re1** -2.07/24
[21.Qh8+? Ke7 22.Bxf6+ gxf6-+]
[21.Bd2∓ -1.36/21]
21...Bxf3-+ 22.Bxf6 gxf6 23.gxf3 Ke7 Hoping for ...Rd8-g8+. **24.Bf5 Rd6** 0.01/22
[24...Rg8+∓ -1.39/19 25.Bg4 Qc6]
25.Bh3? -2.00/22
[25.Bxe6!= 0.01/22 and White is okay. Rxe6 26.Rxe6+ Remove Defender Kxe6 27.Qe4+ Qe5 28.Qc6+ *(28.Qxa8 Qg5+ 29.Kf1 Qc1+ 30.Kg2 Qg5+ 31.Kh3 Qf5+ 32.Kg2 Qg5+ 33.Kh3 Qh5+ 34.Kg2 Qg6+ 35.Kf1 Qd3+ 36.Kg1 Qb1+ 37.Kg2 Qg6+ 38.Kf1 Qb1+ 39.Kg2 Qg6+=)* 28...Ke7 29.Qb7+ *(29.Qxa8 Qg5+ 30.Kh1 Qc1+ 31.Kg2 Qg5+ 32.Kh3 Qh5+ 33.Kg3 Qg5+ 34.Kh3 Qh6+ 35.Kg2 Qg6+ 36.Kh3 Qf5+ 37.Kg3 Qg5+ 38.Kh3=)* 29...Ke6 30.Qc6+ *(30.Qxa8 Qg5+ 31.Kf1 Qc1+ 32.Kg2 Qg5+ 33.Kh1 Qc1+ 34.Kg2 Qg5+ 35.Kh3 Qh6+ 36.Kg4 f5+ 37.Kg3 f4+ 38.Kg2 Qg6+ 39.Kh3 Qh6+ 40.Kg2 Qg6+ 41.Kh1 Qb1+ 42.Kg2 Qg6+=)* 30...Ke7 31.Qxa8 Qg5+ 32.Kh1 *(32.Kf1 Qb5+ 33.Kg1 Qg5+ 34.Kh1 Qc1+ 35.Kg2 Qg5+ 36.Kh3 Qf5+ 37.Kh4 Qf4+ 38.Kh3 Qf5+ 39.Kh4 Qg5+ 40.Kh3 Qh6+ 41.Kg3 Qg5+ 42.Kh3=)* 32...Qc1+ 33.Kg2 Qg5+ 34.Kh1 Qc1+ 35.Kg2 Qg5+ 36.Kf1 Qc1+ 37.Kg2]
25...Rad8

(Diagram)

Strongly threatening ...Rd6-d1. **26.Kg2 Qc5 27.Re4** -2.63/22
[⌓27.Bf5 -1.98/18]

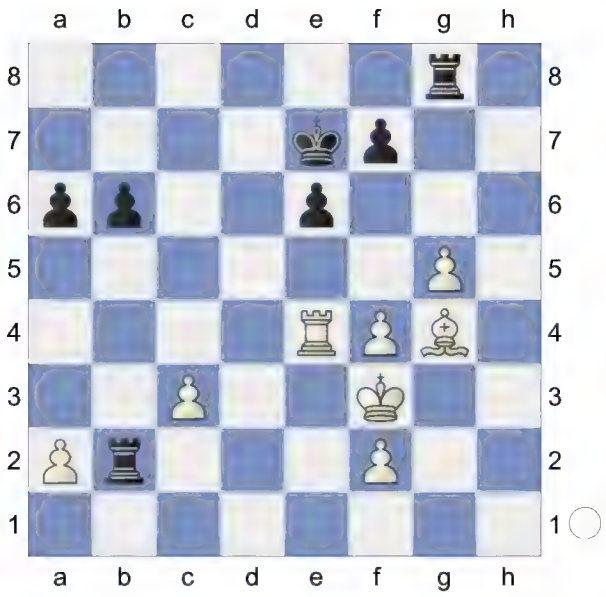


27...f5? 0.01/21 **28.Bxf5= Qd5** 0.64/20
[28...Rf8= -0.01/22]
29.Bg4 -0.01/20
[29.b4± 0.64/20]
29...Qg5!
[29...Qxa2 30.Qh4+ Kd7 31.Qf6±]
30.h4 -1.46/24
[30.a3= 0.01/19]
30...Qf6

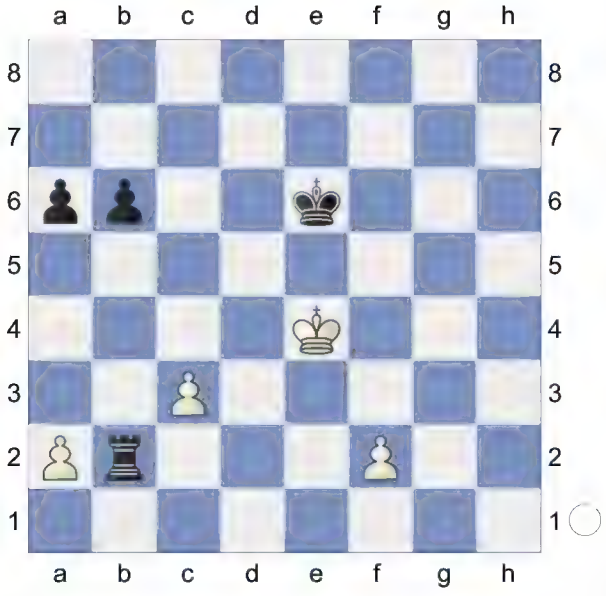


aiming for ...Rd8-h8. **31.Qh5** -2.17/23
[31.Rc4∓ -1.32/23 keeps fighting.]

31...Rh8!-+ 32.Qg5 Qxg5? -0.25/21
[Black should try 32...Rxh4-+ -1.97/21 33.f4 Rd2]
33.hxg5 Endgame. KRR-KRB **33...Rg8** -0.01/22
[33...a5∓ -0.44/21 is superior. 34.a4 Rd2]
34.f4= Rd2 35.Kf3 -1.30/22
[35.Rb4= 0.01/21]
35...Rxb2∓



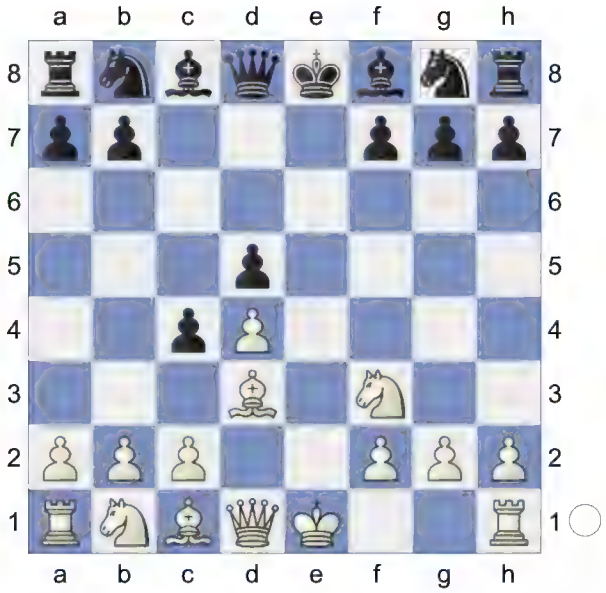
Black is more active. **36.f5** -2.78/21
[36.Rc4∓ -1.47/21 was worth a try.]
36...Rxg5-+ 37.fxe6? -8.99/22
[37.a4 -2.72/22]
37...f5
[37...Rxa2 38.exf7+ Kf8 39.Be6=]
38.Kf4 Rxg4+ 39.Kxf5 Rxe4 40.Kxe4 Kxe6



Weighted Error Value: White=0.73/ Black=0.34
0-1

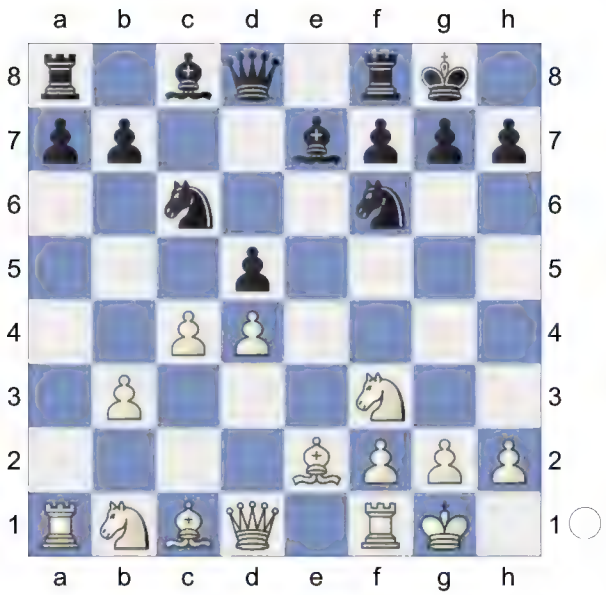
62 **C01**
□ **Onischuk,V** **2599**
■ **Zumsande,Martin** **2467**
GRENKE Chess Open 2017 (5.14)
[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

Now after the long endgame time to get back to Onischuk deleting his opponent and reminding his opponent why he is bad at chess. Also we'll see a new line that's again, in my study over here: https://lichess.org/study/B0VjjEXy
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.exd5 exd5 5.Nf3 c4



This is the correct way to play this line and it's 1 of 2 main lines in Schlechter French. You'll see that white has to fight the pawn chain the with b3. **6.Be2 Nf6 7.0-0 Be7 8.b3** The position is equal. **8...cxb3 9.axb3** Here white will have options of c4 at some point or immediately as Onischuk plays. **9...Nc6 10.c4 0-0**

(Diagram)



11.Nc3

[11.h3 Personally I think that h3 is better then Nc3 here simply not to allow Bg4.]

11...Bg4 12.Be3N

[12.Ra4 dxc4 13.d5 Bxf3 14.Bxf3 Ne5 15.bxc4 Nxf3+ 16.Qxf3 Nd7 17.Be3 Bc5 18.Bf4 Nb6 19.Ra5 Bb4 20.Rb5 Bxc3 21.Qxc3 Rc8 22.Qd3 a6 23.Rb3 Nxc4 24.Rxb7 Qf6 25.Qg3 Qd4 26.d6 Rfd8 1-0 (32) Stukopin,A (2580)-Checa,N (2481) Chicago op 27th 2018 (5) 27.Rc7 Ra8 28.Bg5 Nxd6 29.Bxd8 Rxd8 30.Qf3 Qe4 31.Rxf7 Qxf3 32.Rxf3 1-0 Weissbeck,S (2580)-Cseh, I (2481) Manchester op 2023 (5)]

12...Nb4?! This isn't a really good move though as it does nothing. Now just Ne5, trading the bishop and Rfd1 and white will be a bit better as his center is much stronger then black's.

[12...Bb4 This is much better as this forces white to either play Na2 and allow Ba5 or take on d5 and mess up his structure. 13.Nxd5 *(13.Na2 Ba5∓* Now this knight is in a cage and black is a bit better because of that.*)* 13...Nxd5 14.cxd5 Ne7= Black is gonna take with the knight and white's structure now is pretty bad with 2 isolated pawns.]

13.Qd2?! This isn't the best answer to black's inaccuracy.

[13.Ne5 Bxe2 14.Qxe2± This is what white should've went for and now this knight on b5 looks stupid, black's only good active piece was traded off and white's knights with white's center space now give white a lot of advantage.]

13...Re8?! This allows now c5 which is also a problem now when Qd2 is on the board as when white's knight moves to reposition itself, queen will hit the knight and get a tempo on it. **14.Rfd1?!** Onischuk didn't take the c5 option though and decided to stack up in the center, but the thing is you're not looking at anything except your own pawn. Now Ne4 is actually good for black.

[14.c5 Now bishop is disconnected form the knight, this is what Onischuk should've went for and now black needs to quickly deal with this problem with b6. b6 15.h3

A) 15...Bh5 0.77/18 15...Bg4xf3 0.32 Going back looks like it makes sense, but it doesn't after 16.Rfc1 bxc5 17.dxc5 Rc8 1.08/20 *(17...a5± 0.67/20)* 18.g4± Bg6 19.Bb5± white gets active play and black is in some trouble as he has too many weaknesses.;

B) 15...Bxf3 16.Bxf3 bxc5 17.dxc5 Rc8 Black wants to get rid of white's pawn, but after 18.Na4 white get's the tempo on the knight and protects the knight. If Rb8 19.Bf4± and black is in some

trouble and if Nxe4 you just take the knight.]

14...h6?! Too slow. Now c5 again is a good move for Onischuk.

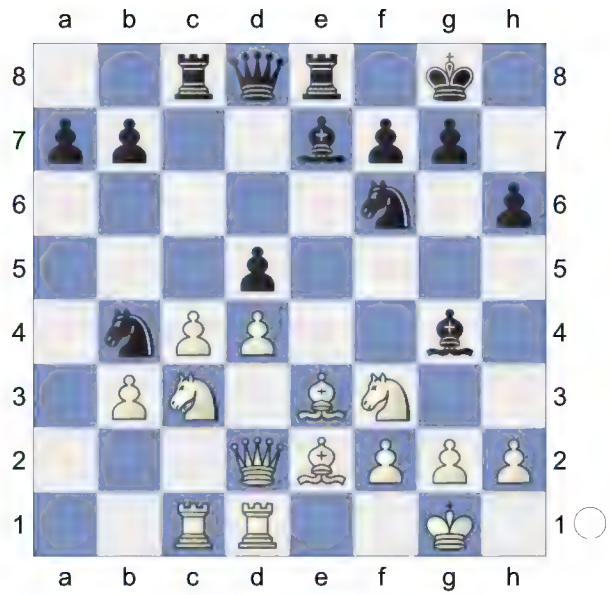
[14...Ne4 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Ne5 Bxe2 17.Qxe2 f6 Black must play like this in order to try and equalize or even play for an advantage since this knight on b4 doesn't really do anything. 18.c5! White can sacrifice the knight though. fxe5 19.Qc4+ And the only move is Qd5! not to lose. aiming for ...Qd5xc4. *(19...Kh8??* 1.21/21 19...Qd8-d5 0.30 This is a huge blunder as now there is *20.dxe5* and if the queen was on d5 it would've been able to take on e5 or take the queen even and be up a piece (obviously), but now it's not able to and after *Qc7* Threatens to win with ...a7-a5. *21.Qxb4±* black has too many weaknesses.*)* 20.Qxb4 exd4 21.Qxd4 Qxd4 22.Bxd4=]

15.Rac1 This isn't a bad move, c5 was just a better move.

[15.c5 b6 16.h3 Bf5 17.Rac1!± Now this is good for white because he played c5, the bishop is disconnected from the knight and white can exploit that.]

15...Rc8

(Diagram)



16.c5?! We've got c5 finally after I've been mentioning it for some moves now, but it's not as strong anymore as white should've first played Ne5 and then c5. Even c5 might've not been the best move after Ne5.

[16.Ne5 Bxe2 17.Qxe2 a5 18.Qf3± This is what the engine now wants for white because black played a5 here and now white cannot really punish the bad knight on b4, it's just bad currently. Instead white has some pressure on the center and is a bit better because of that bad knight on b4 black has.]

16...Nc6? 0.68/18 And this is a huge mistake now after Ne5.

[16...a5= This knight on b5 is bad, but black cannot really put it anywhere else currently, he doesn't have the time to reposition it so he just needs to make sure it's not a target for white.]

[Better is 16...a5= 0.10/19]

17.Ne5± Bxe2 18.Qxe2

[18.Nxe2? -0.06/22 18.Qd2xe2 0.54 This would've been a mistake as after Ne4 19.Nxc6 bxc6 20.Qd3 Rb8∓

b3 is very weak and black now has a fine center actually.]

18...Bf8 19.Nxc6 Rxc6 20.b4 One thing Onischuk is really good at in these positions is proving that white is always gonna be better because of the structure white gets. **20...Rce6**

21.Qa2 a6 22.Bf4? 0.47/20 Problem with this is that now Ne4 puts black back into the game.

[22.Rb1 White should've apparently done this to play b5. Qd7 23.Qb3 g5 Black should look for counterplay this way, but after 24.b5 axb5 25.Qxb5± black is in a lot of trouble because of the weakness on b7 and the pawn on c6.]

[22.Rb1± 0.86/20]

22...Ne4! 23.Nxe4

[23.Nxd5 -0.01/18 23.Nc3xe4 0.44 If this, then black has Nxf2! and you cann take the knight. 24.Rf1 Nd3 And now a sequence of few forced moves is 25.Rcd1! *(25.Rb1?? -0.91/22 25.Rc1-d1 0.01 Nxf4 26.Rxf4 Qg5!∓* White is cooked.*)* 25...Re2! 26.Qb3! Rb2! 27.Qc4! Ree2! 28.Rxd3! Rxg2+! 29.Kh1!∞ and now Qh4 threatening Rxh2+ and the position is pretty complicated. In the same time white has a stron structure and black's pawns on b7 and a6 are now weak. Overall, computer says it's equal, but in reality it's not really clear who is better.]

[23.Qxd5? Nxc3 24.Qxd8 Rxd8-+ *(24...Nxd1? 25.Qxe8 Rxe8 26.Rxd1+-; 24...Ne2+? 25.Kf1-+)*]

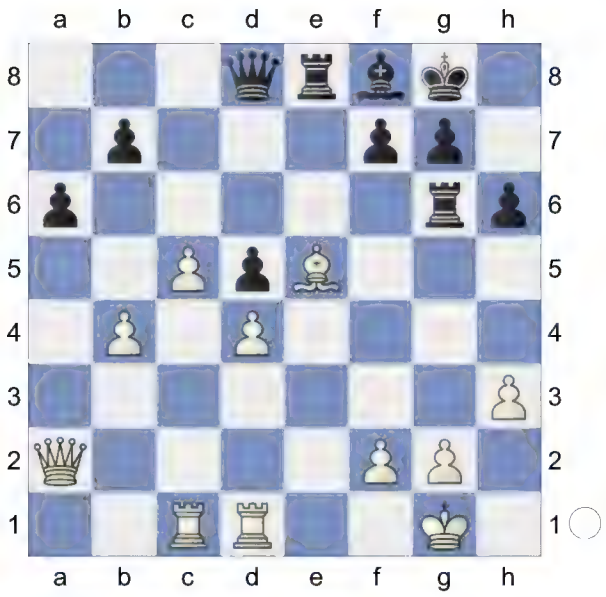
23...Rxe4 24.Be5 A really good move here by Onischuk, disconnecting the rooks from each other to get advantage. Now only move for black is Be7.

24...Rg4? He misses it. Now this rook is just a target here for h3.

[24...Be7! This is the only move because after 25.g3 And now f2-f3 would win. *(25.f3?!* -0.01/22 25.Rc1-b1 0.42 This might look good, but after *Re3! 26.Qd2 Bg5 27.f4* it might look like black has nothing, but there is a brilliant move *R8xe5! 28.dxe5 Bxf4=* and this is equal because now black has a past pawn and the e5 pawn is very weak. In the same time white can get to the 6th rank with c6 so it's not a simple game at all. *)* 25...Bg5 26.Rb1 Qd7 27.Qb3 white is still gonna try to play b4, but there is f6! 28.Bd6 Qf5= and black is getting some counterplay, so it's not so simple to play this as white. Black is also defending the d5 pawn this way.]

25.h3 Rg6

(Diagram)



26.Rb1 Qd7 27.Qb3 Rge6 28.Bg3 White is more active. **28...Be7** 1.06/20

[28...Qc6± 0.57/21 deserves consideration.]

29.b5!± Very important move, the whole point of white's play. Strongly threatening c5-c6! **29...Bf6** 1.57/22

[⌓29...Ra8 1.04/21]

30.Kh2?! 0.81/21 A bit too slow here. I don't really understand this move either tbh, top guess is that Onischuk didn't want any Re1 problems black can maybe give.

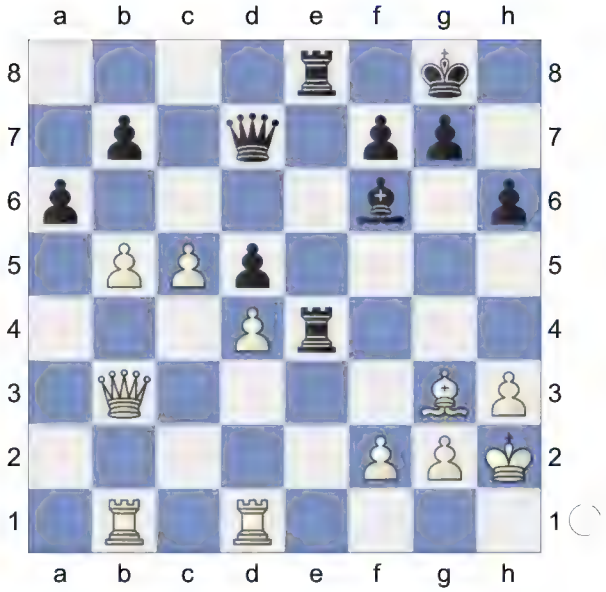
[30.c6 This is much stronger then Kh2, just going through black's position. After bxc6 31.bxa6 Qa7 32.Qa4 Rb1-b7 would now be deadly. c5 33.dxc5 Qxa6 34.Qxa6 Rxa6 35.Rxd5+- white simply has a past pawn and black cannot do anything at all.]

[White should try 30.c6! 1.57/22 bxc6 31.bxa6]

30...Re4?? 2.40/23

[30...axb5 You have to take where after 31.Qxb5 Qxb5 32.Rxb5 R8e7 33.Bd6 Rd7± white is better but black for now has a blockade.]

[30...axb5± 0.81/21 was called for. 31.Qxb5 R8e7]



This just blunders the obvious c6. This costs Black the game. **31.c6!+-** Deflection **31...bxc6 32.bxa6 Qa7 33.Qb7** Ew! That's ugly. Black isn't taking that, black should play Ra8 and is actually not completely lost after that.

[33.Qa3 This is the best move, and even though you lose the pawn on d4 you're winning as after Bxd4 34.Rb7 Qa8 35.Rdb1+- the pawn is just going up the board.]

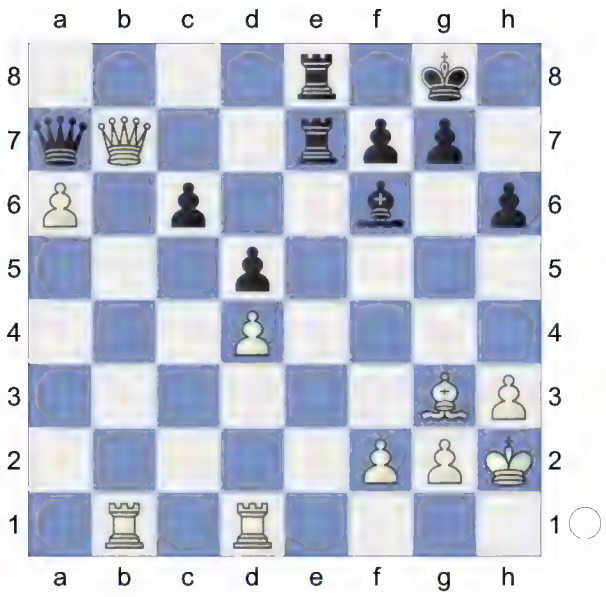
33...R4e7? 2.76/25

[33...Ra8 34.Qxc6 Rb1-b7 is the strong threat. Re6 35.Qxd5 Qxa6± Even though black lost all the pawns in the center and is down a pawn, he needs to defend against the isolated past pawn and might have some chances.]

[33...Bxd4? 34.Rxd4 Qxd4 35.a7+-]

[33...Ra8 1.75/25 is a better defense.]

(Diagram)

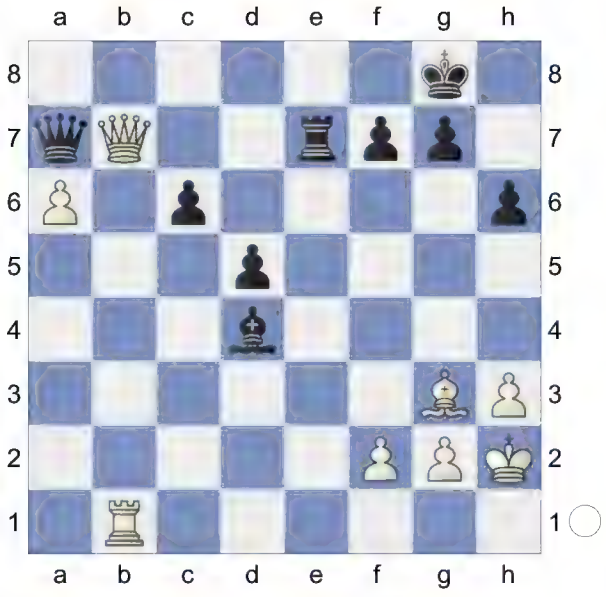


Black missed Ra8 though. Funny enough, this move losses only to Re1.

34.Re1!! Bxd4 35.Rxe7

[35.Qxc6? Rxe1 36.Rb7 Qc5 37.Qxc5 Bxc5-+]

35...Rxe7



36.Qxc6?! Bd6 was much stronger.

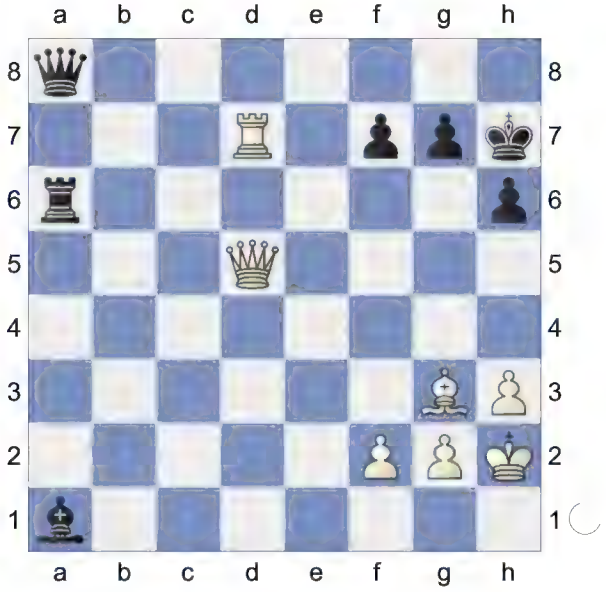
[36.Bd6! Rxb7 4.70/22 *(36...Re8 37.Qxc6 Ra8 38.Bg3 Kh7* To not get hit with any tactics with Rb8+. *39.Qxd5*+- And now black cannot take the pawn on a6 as his bishop is hanging.*;* ⌓*36...Re8* 2.98/24 *37.Qxc6 Ra8 38.Qxa8+* Remove Defender *Qxa8 39.Rb8+ Qxb8 40.Bxb8 Bxf2)* 37.axb7+-]

[Not 36.Qc8+ Kh7±]

36...Re6! Only try for survival even though white is much better and much more active then black. Kh2 that was earlier too slow now serves a purpose as black's king is much weaker due to back rank checks. **37.Qxd5 Rxa6 38.Rb8+**

[Weaker is 38.Rb7 Qc5 39.Qxf7+ Kh7±]

38...Kh7 39.Rd8 Ba1 40.Rd7 Qa8

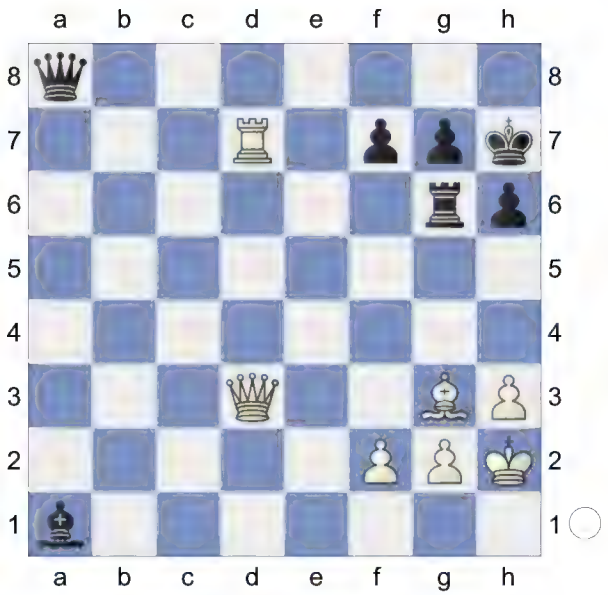


41.Qd3+

[41.Qxf7?! Bf6±]

41...Rg6

(Diagram)



42.h4!

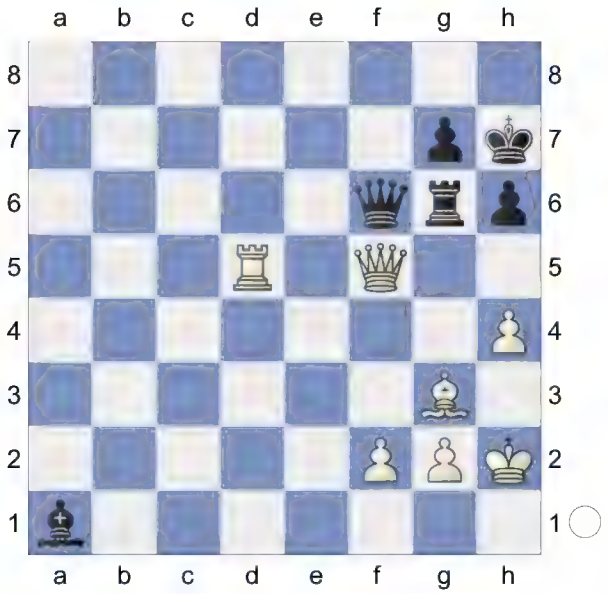
[Much less strong is 42.Rxf7 Bf6]

42...Qa5 6.82/23

[42...Qa6 2.43/27 43.Qb1 Qa5 44.Rxf7 Be5 45.Bxe5 Qxe5+ 46.g3 Qe6]

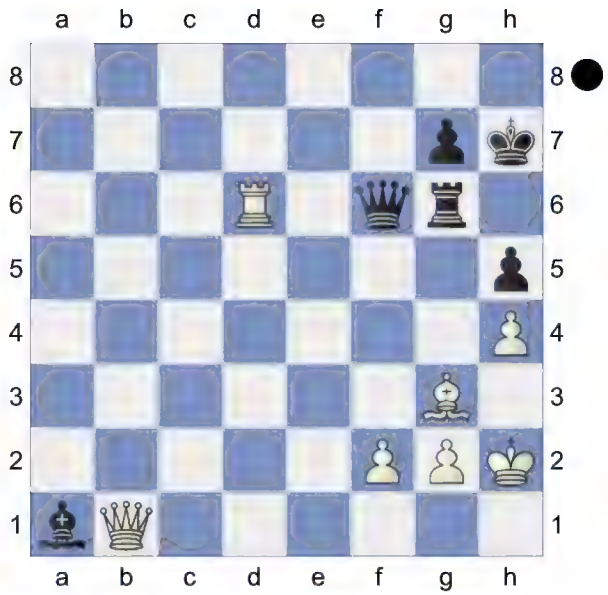
43.Rd5 White is clearly winning.

43...Qc3 44.Qe4 f5 45.Qxf5 Qf6



46.Qb1 h5 47.Rd6

(Diagram)



And here Zumsande resigned as he cannot move his overloaded queen. Overall, both players did some play some bad moves, but Onischuk as a GM and a stronger player was able to convert the middle game correctly and enter a winning endgame.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.29 (precise)

1-0

63 **C01**

□ **Kharlov,Andrei** **2614**

■ **Ivanchuk,Vassily** **2711**

Moscow Aeroflot op-A (4) 18.02.2005

[Finkel,Alexander]

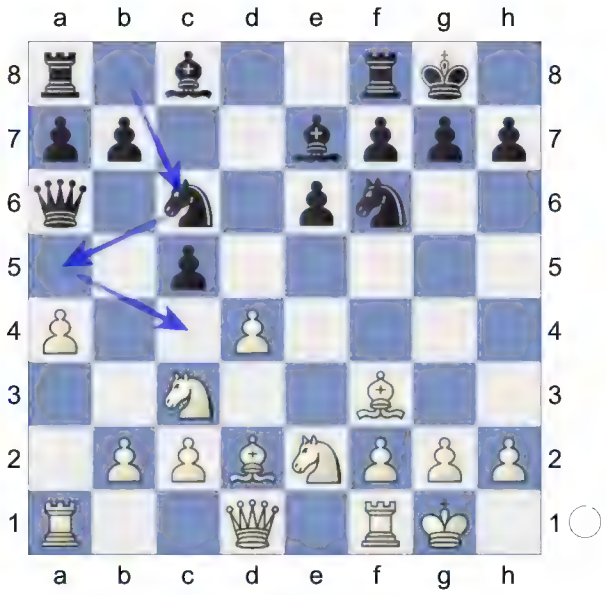
C01: French: Exchange Variation

https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4!?** It's not a

very common situation when one of the players comes up with the novelty on move 3, but for Ivanchuk is not a common person! **4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**
[5...Nbd7 6.Ne2 e5↑]

6.Ne2 Be7
[6...Nc6 7.Be3 e5 8.Bxc6+± bxc6? 9.dxe5 Qxd1+ 10.Kxd1 Ng4 11.Nd2!+- Nxe5! 12.Re1 Ba6 13.Nc3 0.02/23 *(13.Bf4± 0.46/23* was preferrable. *Ng6 14.Ng3+ Kd7 15.Be3)* 13...0-0-0= 14.Bg5 Prevents Bf8-e7. f6 15.Rxe5! Bd6± 16.Re6 fxg5 17.Nde4 Be5+]
7.Nbc3 0-0!? 8.0-0
[8.Be3 Qa5 9.a3 Rd8 10.Qb1 *(10.0-0 Nc6)* 10...Nc6 0.01/21 *(Black should play 10...cxd4!∓* -0.49/21 *11.Nxd4 Nbd7)*]
[8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 f5 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 Bc4 20.b3 Ba6 21.Kd1 Bf2 22.Ne2 Re8 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4)]

8...Qa5 The position is equal.
[8...Nc6 9.Be3 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Ne5 11.Be2 Qc7 12.Qc1 Neg4 *(12...a6 13.Bf4= Bd6!?)* 13.Bf4 e5 14.Bg3! Nh5]
9.Bd2N
[9.Qe1 Kh8 10.Be3 Nc6 11.g3 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Bd7 14.Nd5 Qxe1 15.Rfxe1 Nxd5 16.Bxd5 Bb4 17.Bxb7 Rab8 18.Bf3 Bxe1 19.Rxe1 Rfc8 20.Rc1 Bc6 21.Bxc6 Rxc6 22.c4 a5 23.Kf1 a4 ½-½ (51) Gusev,D (1863)-Vardanyan,A (1735) Wch U10 Montesilvano 2024 (10)]
9...Qa6= Both players played an opening in a very creative fashion. Arising position is equal, but a full of life.
[9...Qc7 10.Bf4?]
[9...Nc6+- 10.Nd5 Qd8! 11.Nxe7+ Qxe7 12.dxc5 Qxc5 13.Be3]
10.a4 Nc6
[10...Bd7 11.Nb5 Bxb5 12.axb5 Qxb5 13.Nc3?]



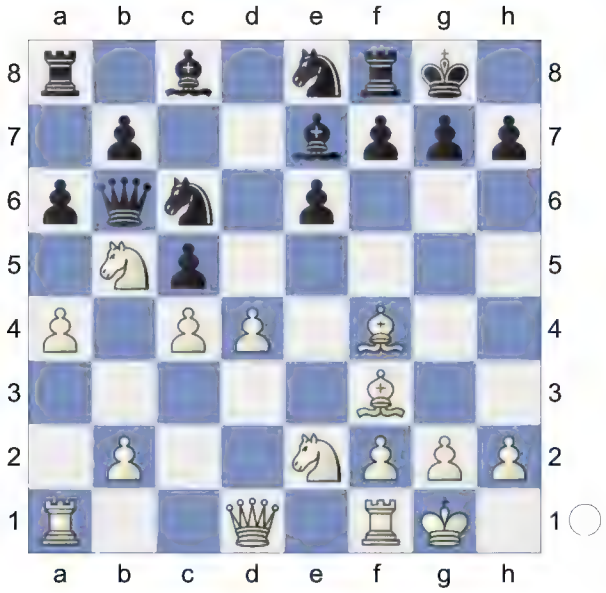
11.Nb5 Qb6 Wards off Nb5-c7 **12.Bf4! Ne8** 0.69/23 Inhibits Bf4-c7.
[⌓12...cxd4 0.32/22 13.Bc7

(13.Nexd4 Rd8±) 13...Qc5]

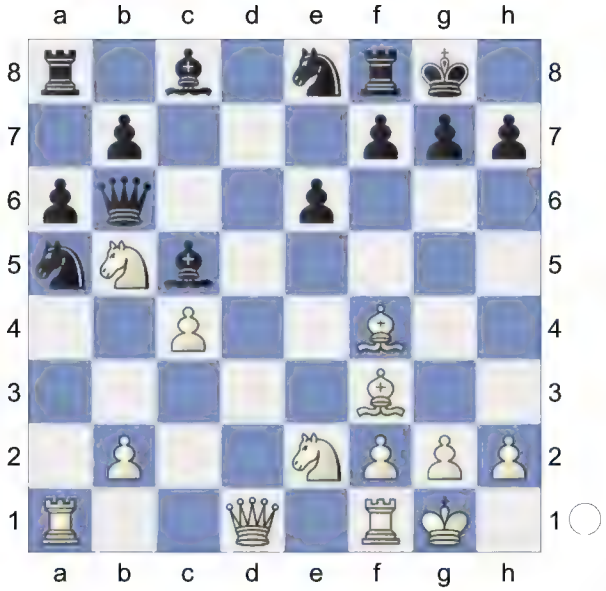
13.c4±

[13.c4!?]

13...a6



14.a5! Nxa5 15.dxc5 Bxc5



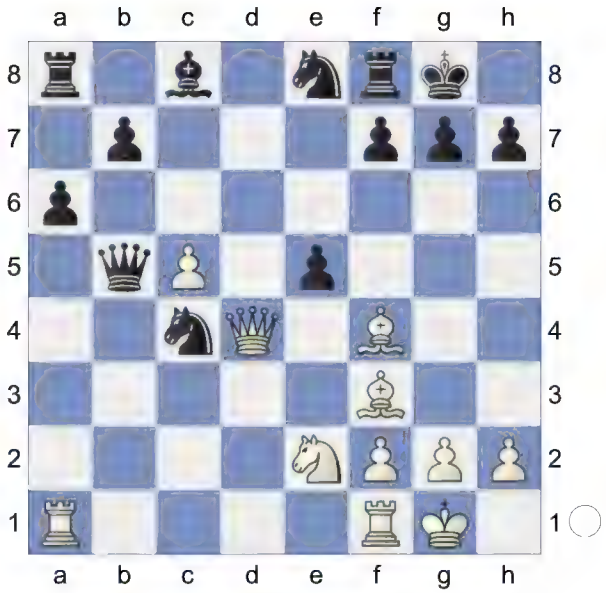
16.b4! White is much more active. The black rooks are passive. **16...Nxc4**

[16...Bxb4 1.73/22 16...Na5xc4 0.67 17.Be3]

[16...Bxb4? perishes. 17.Be3 Bc5 18.Bxc5 Qxc5 19.Rxa5+-]

17.bxc5 Qxb5 18.Qd4 e5

(Diagram)



19.Bxe5 0.10/22

[19.Nc3!

A) 19...exd4 20.Nxb5 Nf6 1.05/22 *(20...d3± 0.67/20)* 21.Nc7± Rb8 *(21...Ra7 22.Ra4)* 22.Nd5;

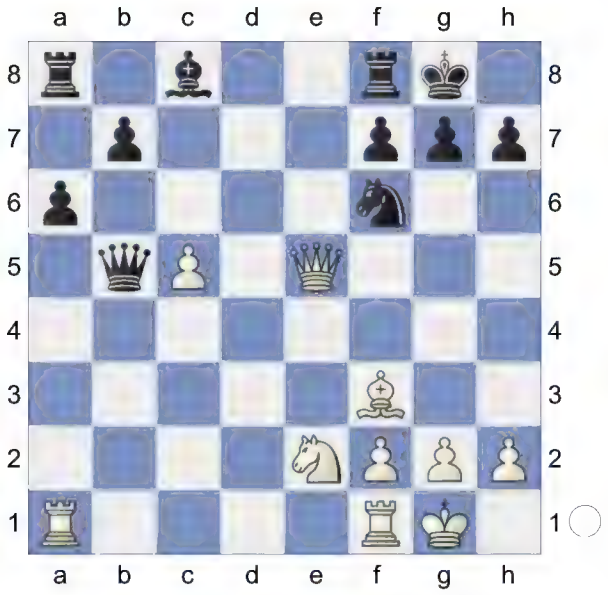
B) 19...exd4± 1.21/23 20.Nxb5 d3;

C) 19...Qb3 0.49/21 20.Bxe5± Nxe5 21.Qxe5 Hoping for Nc3-d5. Nf6 22.Nd5 Nxd5 23.Bxd5 Qb5 24.Rab1 Inhibits a6-a5.]

[19.Nc3± 0.95/24 Qb3 *(19...exd4 20.Nxb5* Pin *Nf6 21.Nc7±)* 20.Bxe5 Nxe5 21.Qxe5]

19...Nxe5= 20.Qxe5 Ne2-c3 would now be deadly. **20...Nf6**

(Diagram)



21.Nc3↑ Black is under pressure.

21...Qe8

[21...Re8 0.85/25 21...Qb5-b4 0.14

A) 22.Qg5 -0.17/21 22.Qe5-d4 0.92 Qb4;

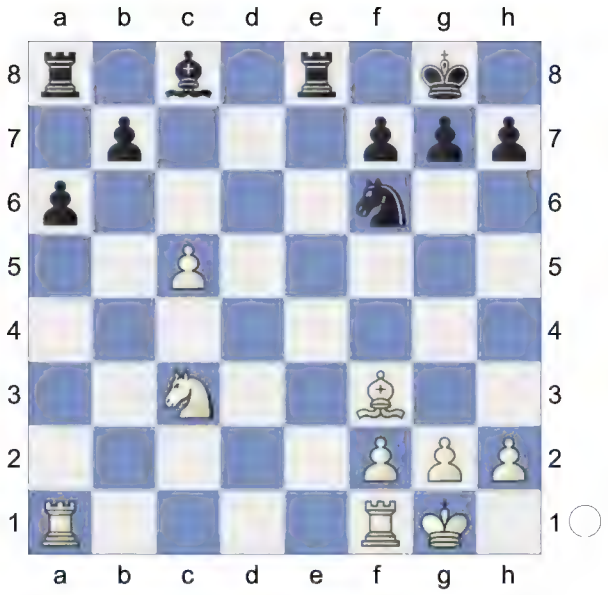
B) 22.Nxb5 Rxe5 23.Nc7 -0.41/25 *(23.Rfc1= 0.06/22)* 23...Rb8∓ 24.Rab1 Threatens to win with Rf1-d1. Bf5;

C) 22.Qd4! Qd7?! 23.Qf4! *(23.Qc4?! -0.54/19 23.Qd4-f4 0.41 Qc7)* 23...Qe6]

22.Qxe8 Rxe8 1.62/21

[22...Nxe8± 0.50/24 23.Rfb1 Ra7]

(Diagram)



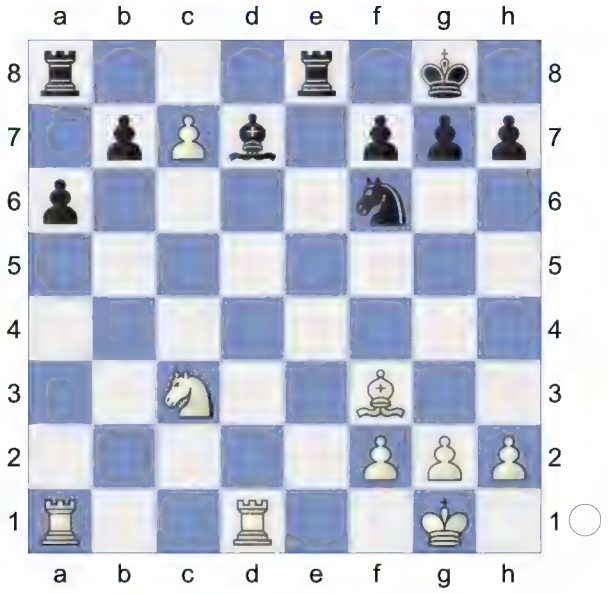
23.c6!+- Rb8 2.22/20

[23...bxc6 24.Bxc6]

[23...bxc6± 1.59/24 keeps fighting. 24.Bxc6 Be6 25.Bxa8 Rxa8]

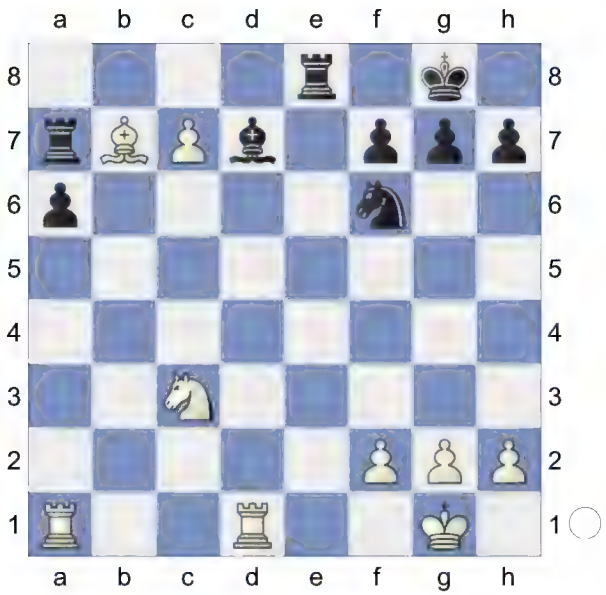
24.c7 Ra8 25.Rfd1 Bd7? 6.96/25

[25...Nd7 2.33/22 26.Rab1 Kf8]

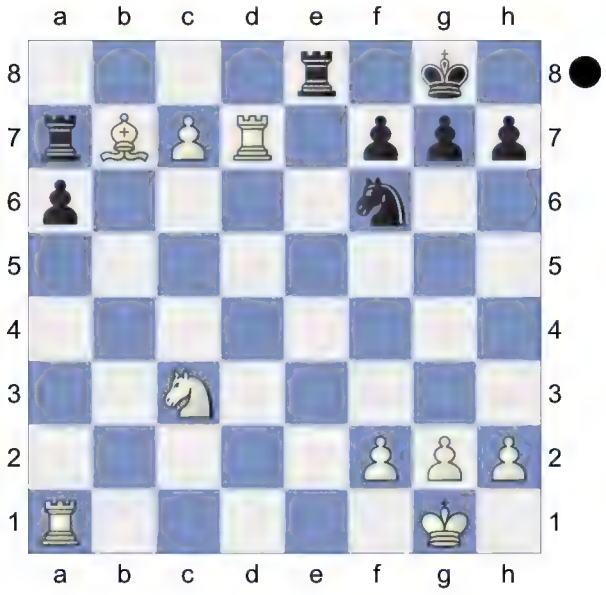


26.Bxb7 Ra7

(Diagram)



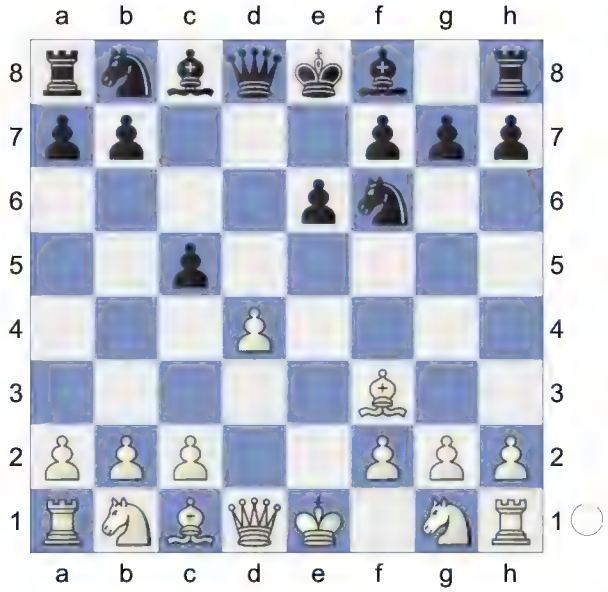
27.Rxd7!



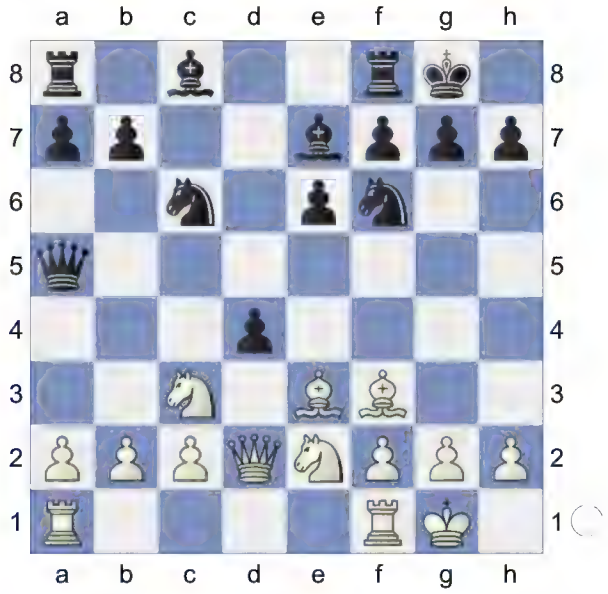
Promotion.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.40
1-0

64 **C01**
□ **Fargere,Francois** **2520**
■ **Salgado Lopez,Ivan** **2630**
EU-ch 12th Aix les Bains (2) 23.03.2011
[Kitty Kat]

(90min+30sec)/40+(30min+30sec)
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5



6.Ne2 Be7 7.Be3 0-0 8.Nbc3 Qa5 9.0-0 Nc6 10.Qd2 cxd4

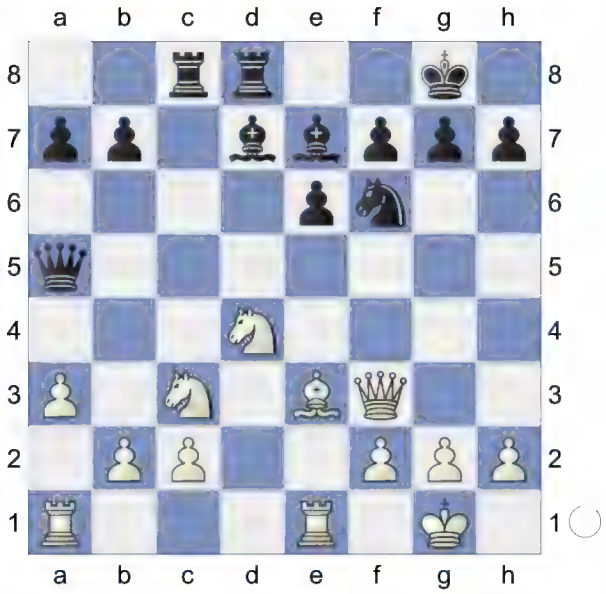


11.Nxd4 1:22 **Ne5** 1:25 **12.Qe2 Nxf3+**

13.Qxf3 43 **Bd7** 1:20 **14.Rfe1** 43 **Rfd8N** 1:20

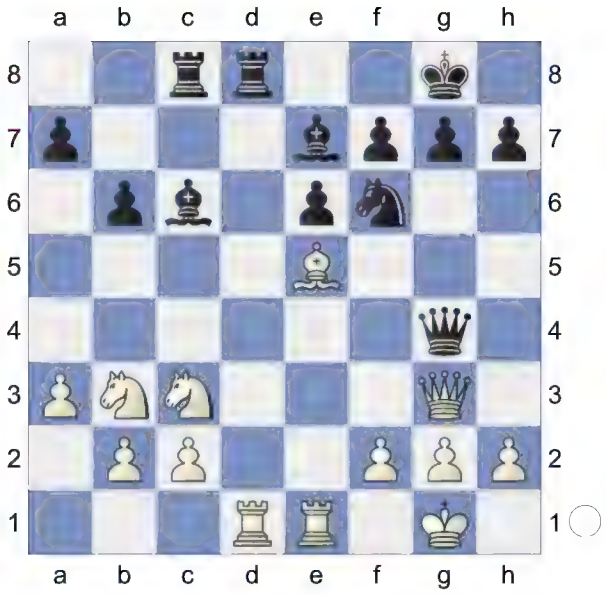
[14...Rac8 15.Nb3 Qc7 16.Bf4 Qc6 17.Qe2 Bb4 18.Be5 Bxc3 19.Bxc3 Nd5 20.Red1 Nxc3 21.bxc3 Qc7 22.c4 Ba4 23.Rd4 e5 24.Re4 f6 25.Rd1 Rfd8 26.h3 Rxd1+ 27.Qxd1 Rd8 28.Qe2 Qd7 29.Re3 (51) Chapter Games-Games Chapter games]

15.a3 Rac8



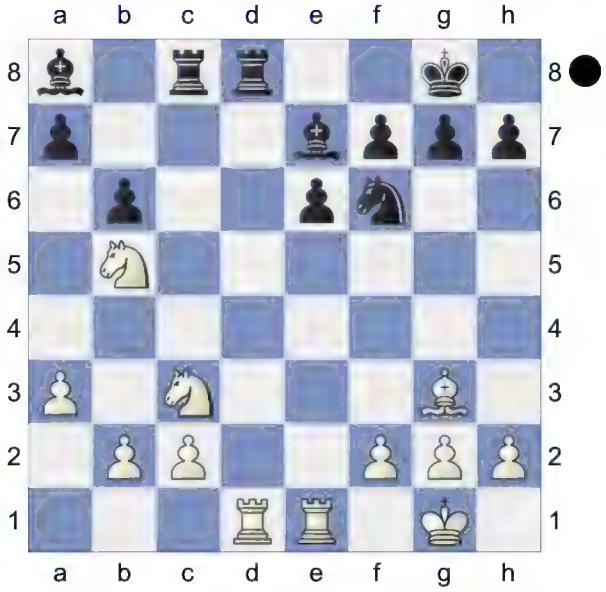
16.Nb3 Qa6 17.Bd4 32 **b6** 53 **18.Qg3 Bc6** Repels Nc3-d5 **19.Be5 Qc4 20.Rad1** 31 **Qg4** 51

(Diagram)



21.Nd4 Qxg3 22.Bxg3 Ba8

A strong pair of Bishops. **23.Ndb5**



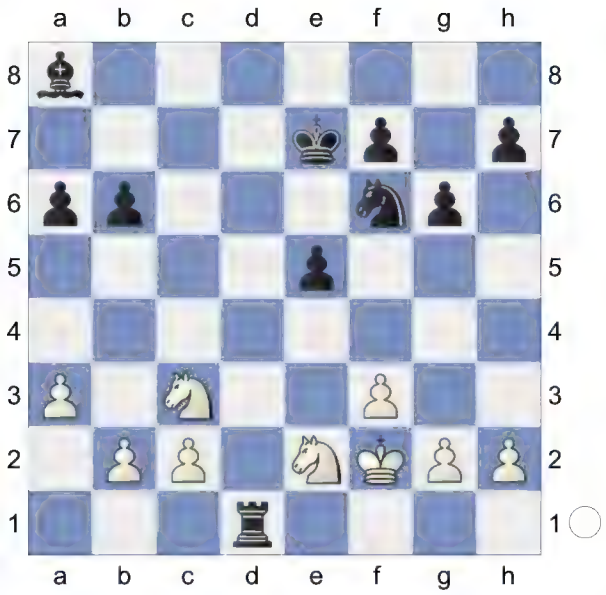
Rxd1 -0.30/21

[23...Nd5!∓ -0.85/21]

24.Rxd1= a6 25.Bd6 Kf8!

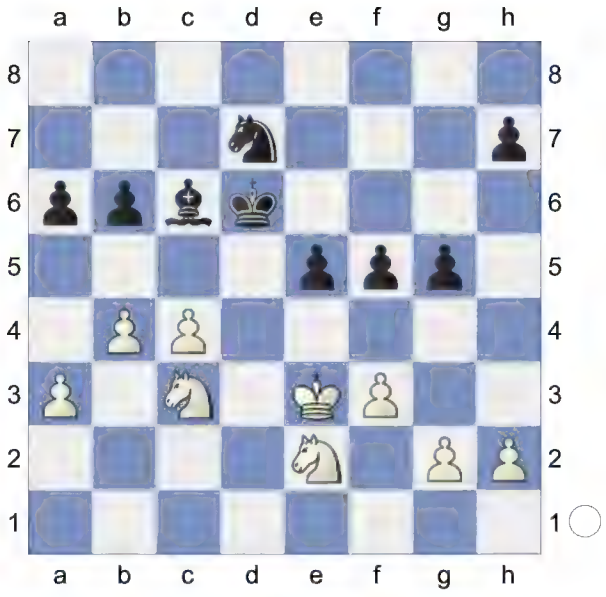
(Diagram)

26.Bxe7+ Kxe7 27.Nd4 Rd8 28.f3 g6 29.Kf2 e5 30.Nde2 Rxd1

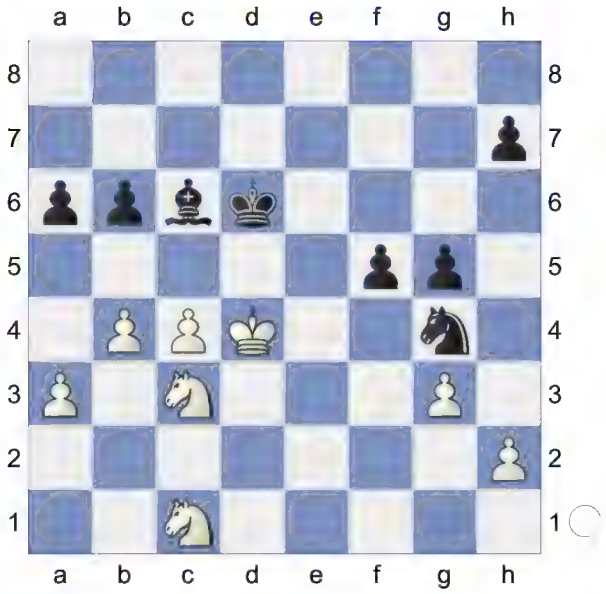


31.Nxd1∓ Endgame. KBN-KNN
31...Nd7 32.c4 f5 33.Ke3 g5 34.Ndc3 Kd6 35.b4 Bc6

(Diagram)

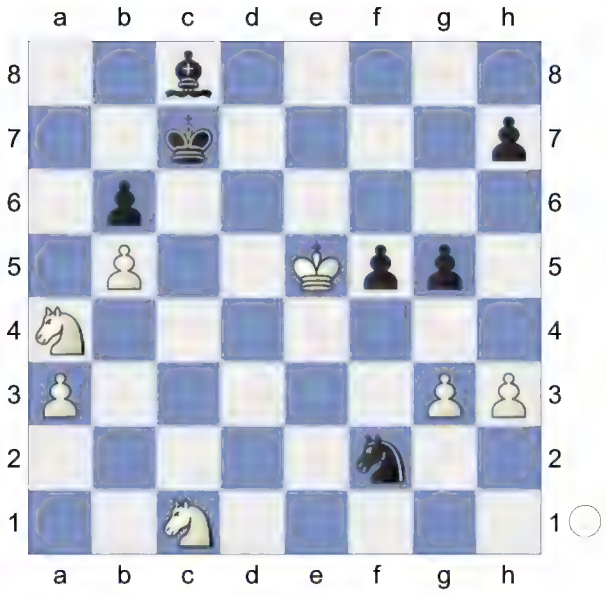


36.Kd3 Nf6 37.Nc1 e4+ 38.fxe4 Nxe4 39.g3 Nf2+ -0.34/21
[39...Nxc3∓ -0.82/23 40.Kxc3 Ke5]
40.Kd4 Ng4

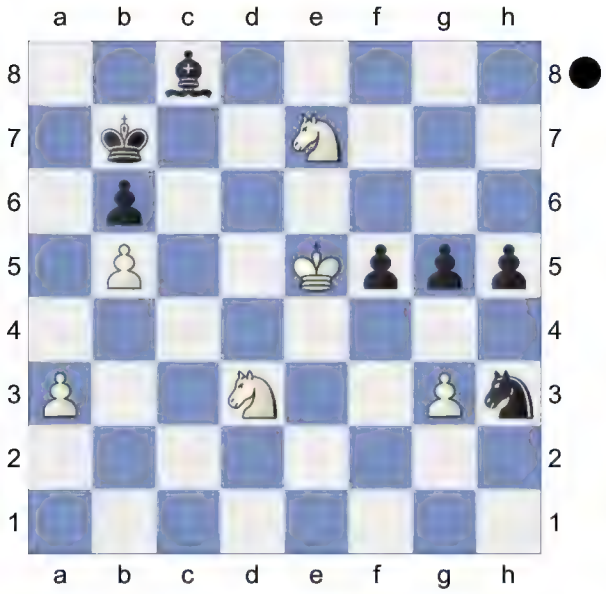


41.h3 Nf2! 42.b5 axb5 43.cxb5 Bb7 44.Na4 Kc7 45.Ke5 Bc8 -0.01/22
[45...Nxh3∓ -0.68/23 46.Kxf5 Bc8+ 47.Ke5 h5]

(Diagram)

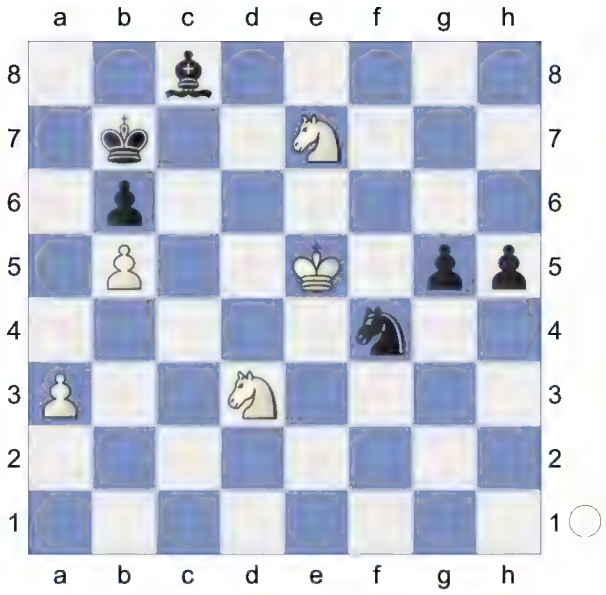


46.Nc3 -0.43/25
[46.Ne2= -0.01/22]
46...Nxh3 47.Nd5+ Kb7 48.Nd3 h5 49.Ne7

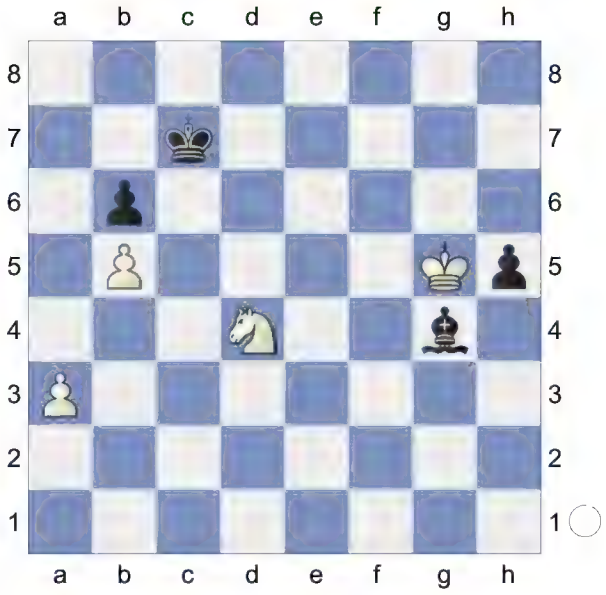


f4! -0.01/25 **50.gxf4= Nxf4**

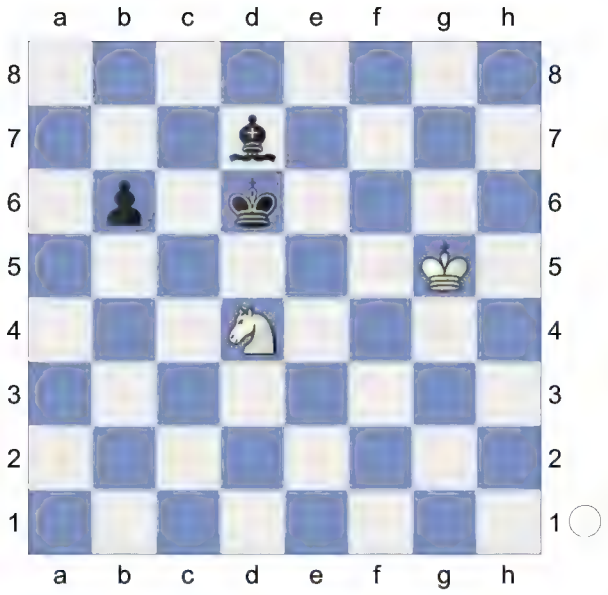
(Diagram)



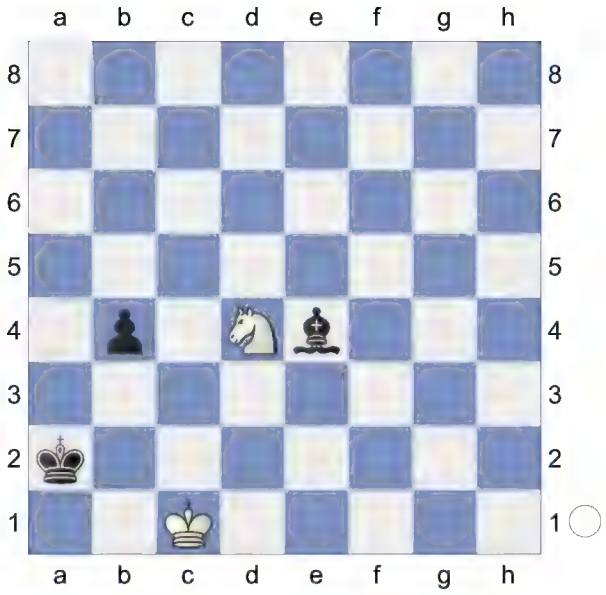
51.Nxf4 gxf4 52.Kxf4 KB-KN **52...Be6**
53.Nc6 -0.94/29
[53.Kg5= 0.00/28 remains equal.]
53...Bd7∓ 54.Nd4 Kc7 55.Kg5 -1.50/28
[White should play 55.Ke5 -0.96/27]
55...Bg4



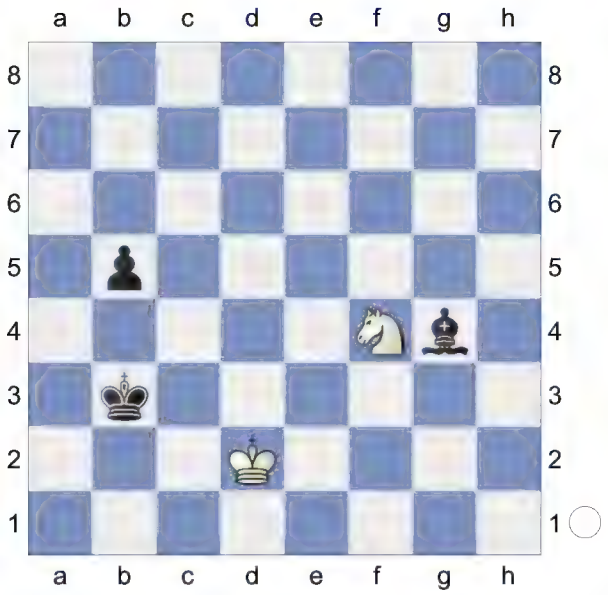
56.a4 Bd1? 0.00/31
[56...Kd6∓ -1.57/31 Strongly threatening ...Bg4-d1. 57.Nc6 Kc5]
57.Nc6= The position is equal. **57...Bxa4 58.Kxh5 Bxb5 59.Nd4 Bd7**
...Kc7-d6 would now be deadly. **60.Kg5 Kd6**



61.Kf4 Kd5 62.Ke3 Kc4 63.Ne2 b5 64.Kd2 Bg4 (-> ...Bg4xe2) **65.Nf4 Kb3**

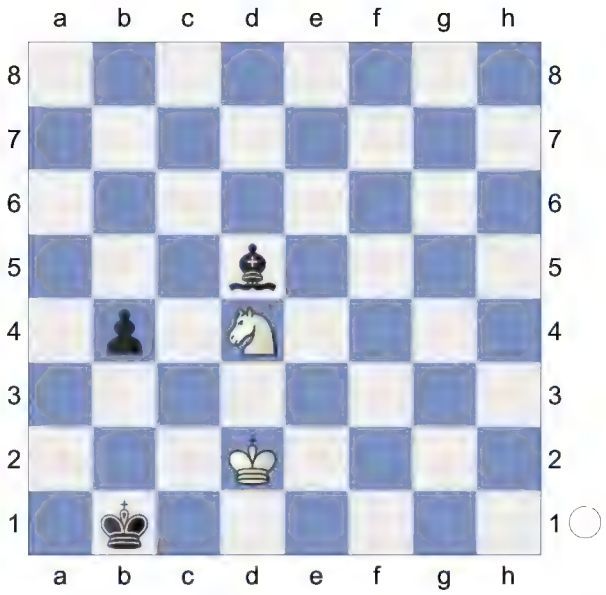


71.Kd2 Kb1 72.Ke3 Bb7 73.Kd2 Bd5 74.Ne2 Kb2 75.Nd4 Kb1



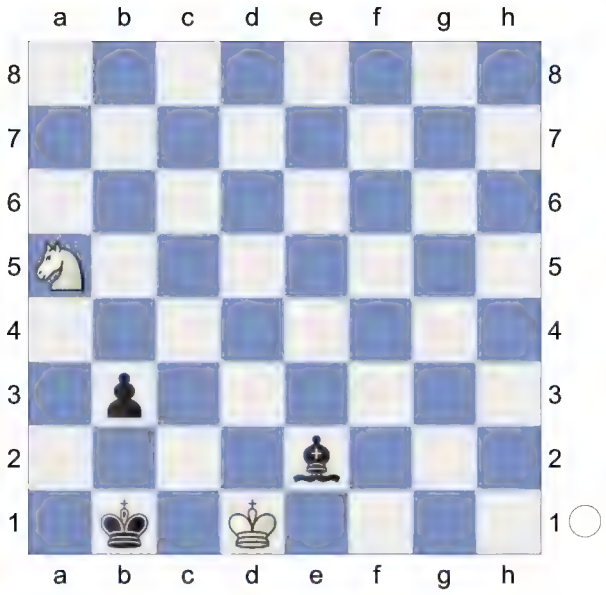
66.Kc1 Bf5 67.Ne2 b4 68.Nd4+ Ka2 69.Kd2 Bg6 70.Kc1 Be4

(Diagram)

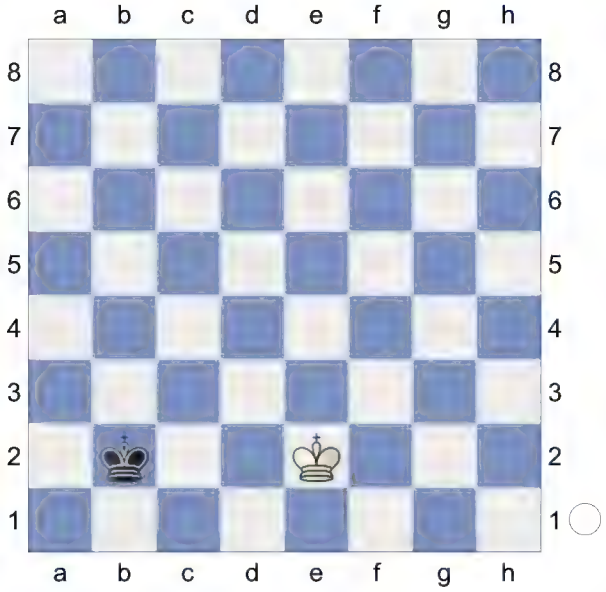


76.Ne2 Bf7 77.Nd4! Bg8 78.Kd1 Bc4 79.Nc6 b3 80.Na5 Be2+

(Diagram)



81.Kxe2 b2 Hoping for ...Kb1-a2.
82.Nc4 Kc2 83.Nxb2 Kxb2



Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.09 (flawless)
½-½

65 **C01**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2793**
■ **Van der Lende,Ilias** **2332**
PRO League Group (8) 28.02.2018
[John Watson]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 Nd5?! 0.46/21
[As shown in different Archives games, 7...cxd4! 8.Nxd4 Ne5 is the simplest solution, intending 9.0-0 Be7!]
[7...cxd4= -0.13/20 8.Nxd4 Ne5]
8.Bxd5± Qxd5 White is slightly better.
[8...exd5 9.dxc5 and White keeps the extra pawn.]
9.Nbc3! This gambit is the problem with 7...Nd5.
[9.0-0 -0.21/20 9.Nb1-c3 0.46 is slow: cxd4 10.Nxd4 Nxd4 11.Bxd4 Bd7 12.Nc3 Qf5=]
9...Qh5 A novelty? It seems to be the best try, which is surprising, because dozens of strong players have used other moves, with minimal success.

[Most players shy away at this point, but Caruana grabbed the pawn by 9...Qxg2?! 10.Rg1 Qf3? *(I give 10...Qxh2!* in my notes, but Black is still worse in that case*)* 11.Nb5!± see the Archives for Kramnik,V (2744) -Caruana,F (2800) Stavanger 2017.]

[9...Qc4 0.61/19 9...Qd5xg2 0.23 10.b3 Qa6 is better than capturing on g2, although it has a horrible record after 11.dxc5 . Black has some compensation for the pawn, but it's certainly not enough. Be7 12.Qd3 Qa5 13.Qb5 Qa3 14.0-0 0-0 15.Ne4 Qb2 16.Qc4 e5 17.a3 Be6 18.Qd3 Rad8 19.Nd6 Bxd6 20.cxd6 e4 21.Qxe4 Bxb3 22.cxb3 Qxe2 23.Rad1 Rfe8 24.Qa4 Re6 25.Rd2 Rxe3 26.Rxe2 1-0 (43) C 08/07 (2521)-5.Nc3 Nf6 6.Be2 Bg7 7.Be3 00 (2394) British CC Ch 1995 (2)]

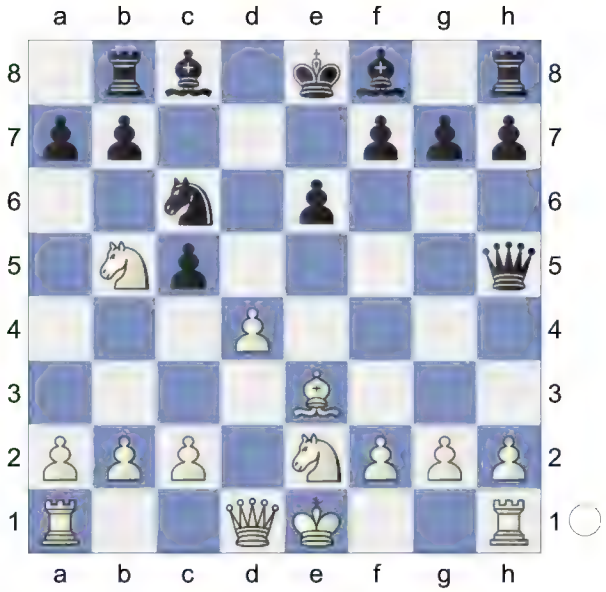
10.Nb5! Threatens to win with Nb5-c7+.

[10.d5± is good as well, but Black keeps his disadvantage down by Nb4]

10...Rb8N 1.10/23

[Black has to play 10...cxd4! . Then 11.Nc7+ *(11.Nexd4 Qe5±* Prevents Nb5-c7+.*)* 11...Ke7 12.Bf4! Strongly threatening Ne2xd4! *(12.Nxa8 dxe3 13.0-0 Qe5 14.Nc3 Ke8 15.fxe3 Bd6 16.g3 Ke7 17.Qf3 Nd8 18.Ne4 b6 19.Nxd6 Qxd6 20.Rad1 Bb7 21.Qh5 Qb8 22.Rxd8 Kxd8 23.Qxf7 Bxa8 24.Rd1+ Bd5 25.Qxe6* 1-0 Carlsen,M-Ivar A Abusdal Junior Event 2003 (1)*)* 12...Rb8 13.Nxd4 Qxd1+ 14.Rxd1 favours White, but not by much after e5! 15.Nxc6+ bxc6 16.Bxe5 Rb7 17.Bd6+! Kf6 ...Bf8xd6 would now be deadly. 18.0-0±]

[10...cxd4± 0.68/23 was preferrable. 11.Nc7+ Ke7]



11.0-0?? 0.44/23 Rapid games have a short time control, but not that short! Vachier Lagrave would normally see

[11.d5! and White is winning, e.g., Nb4 *(11...exd5 12.Nc7+ Kd8 13.Nxd5)* 12.c4 Na6 13.0-0 Be7 14.Bf4 e5 15.Qa4 with the idea. Hoping for Ne2-g3. 0-0 1.70/19 *(15...f6±* 1.22/19 keeps fighting.*)* 16.Ng3+- Qg6 17.Bxe5]

[White should try 11.d5± 1.10/23 Nb4 12.c4 *(12.Nxa7 Nxd5 13.Nxc8 Nxe3=)*]

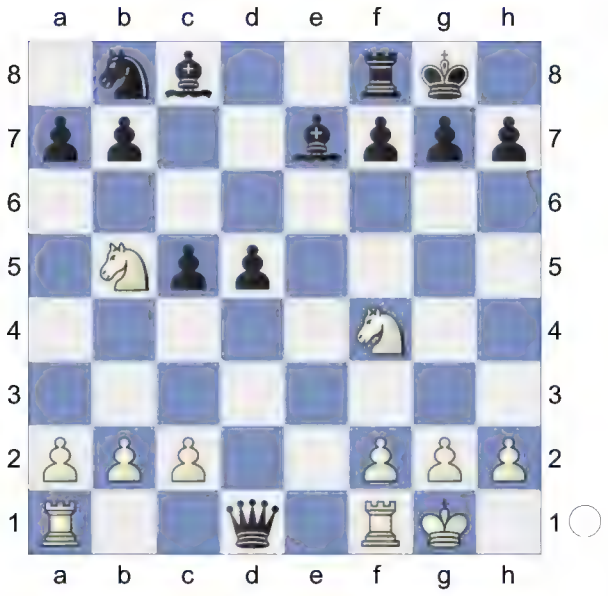
11...Be7? 1.10/19

[11...a6! 12.Nc7+ Kd7 aiming for ... Bf8-d6. 13.Bf4! Bd6 ...Bd6xf4 is the strong threat. 14.dxc5! Qxc5 15.Ng3! Qd4! Prevents Ng3-e4 16.Nxe6! fxe6 17.Qxd4! Nxd4 18.Bxd6 Nf3+ 19.gxf3 Kxd6±]

[11...a6!± 0.44/23 12.Nbc3 *(12.Nc7+ Kd7=)* 12...cxd4 13.Nxd4 Qxd1 14.Raxd1 Nxd4 15.Bxd4 Bd7]

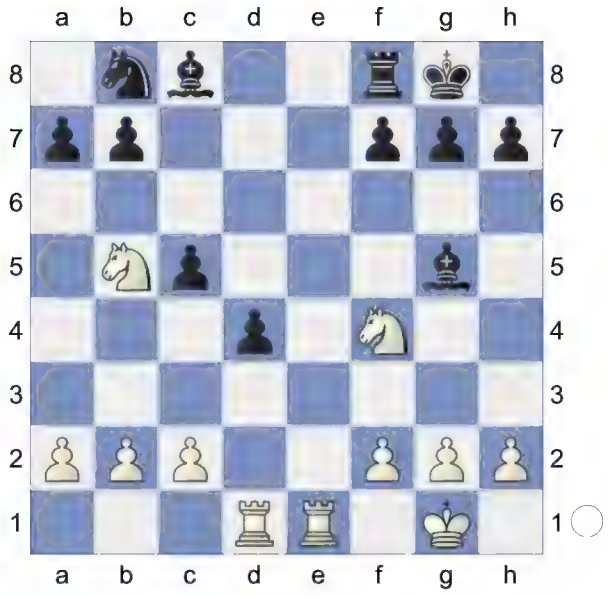
(Diagram)

12.d5!± exd5 13.Bf4 0-0 14.Bxb8 Nxb8 15.Nf4! Discovered Attack, Double Attack **15...Qxd1**

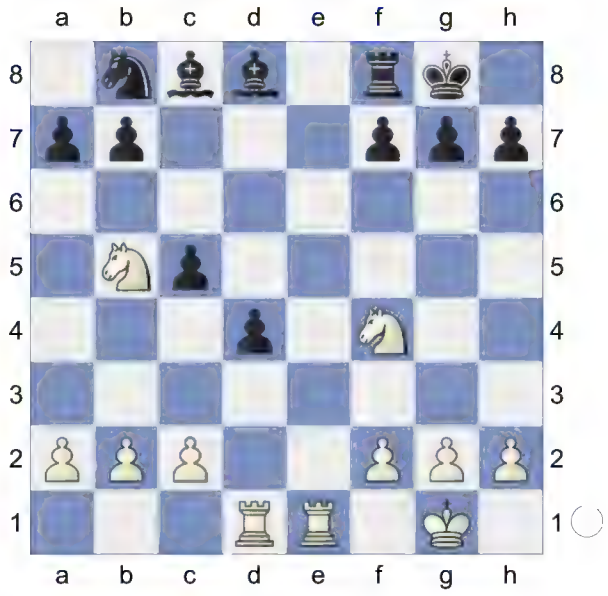


16.Raxd1
[16.Rfxd1 d4=]
16...d4 17.Rfe1
[Or 17.Nxa7 . It's a technical win in any case.]
17...Bd8 1.31/21
[17...Bg5

(Diagram)

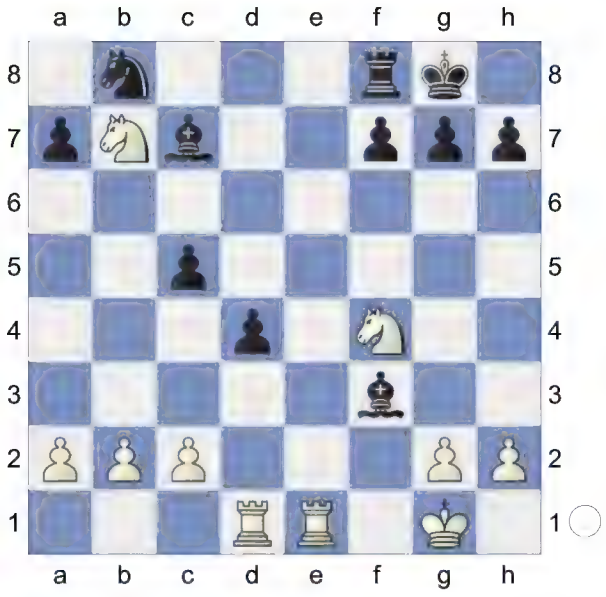


18.Nd3!]
[⌓17...Bg5 0.95/22 18.Nd3 b6]

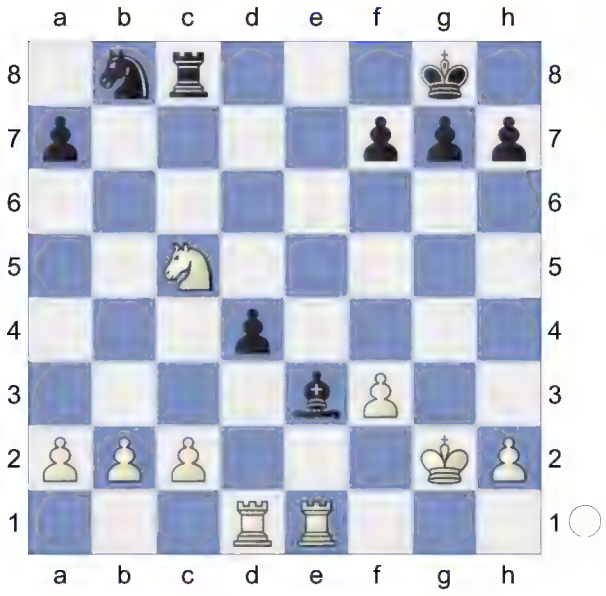


18.Nd6!↑ White has strong initiative. White is much more active. The black rooks are passive. **18...Bg4** 1.88/21
[18...Bg5± 1.18/21]
19.f3+- Bc7 20.Nxb7 A dynamic duo of knights. **20...Bxf3**

(Diagram)

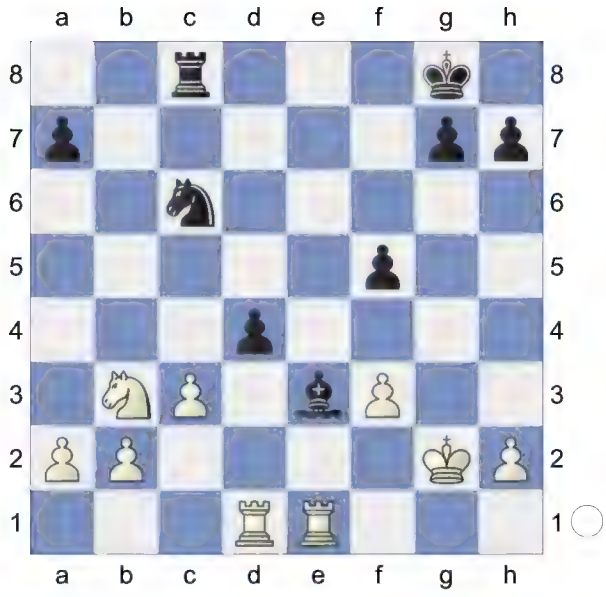


21.gxf3 Bxf4 22.Nxc5 Be3+ 3.09/21
[⌓22...Nc6 2.04/21 23.Re4 Bh6]
23.Kg2 Rc8

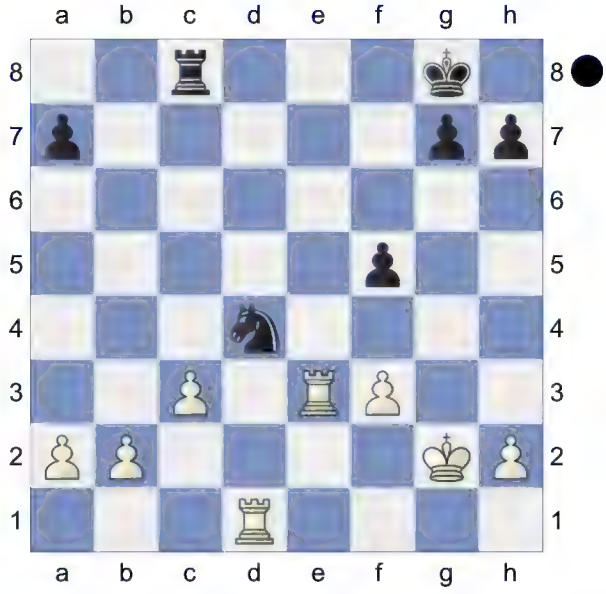


24.c3! Nc6
[24...Rxc5? loses. 25.Rxe3 g5 *(25...Rg5+? 26.Kf1+-)* 26.Re8+ *(26.cxd4 Rc2+ 27.Kg3 Kg7+-; 26.Rxd4 Rc8+-)* 26...Kg7 27.Rxb8+-]
25.Nb3 f5 5.41/21
[⌓25...Bg5 3.55/18 26.Nxd4 Ne7]

(Diagram)



26.Nxd4 Remove Defender **26...Nxd4**
27.Rxe3

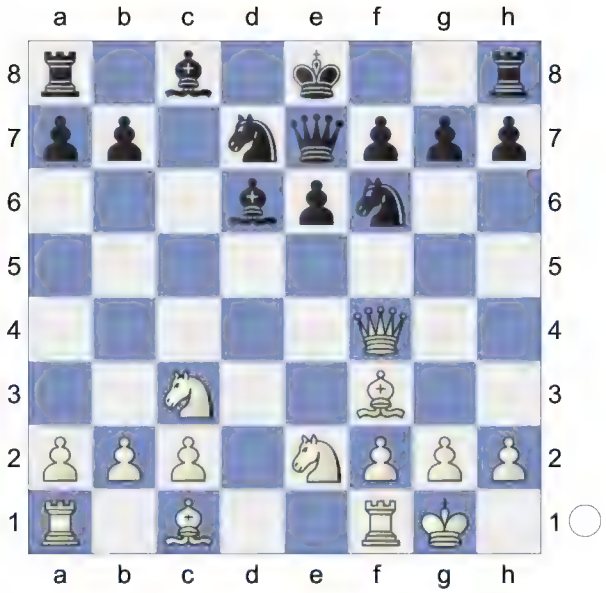


Black did not feel at home in the position after the opening.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.46
1-0

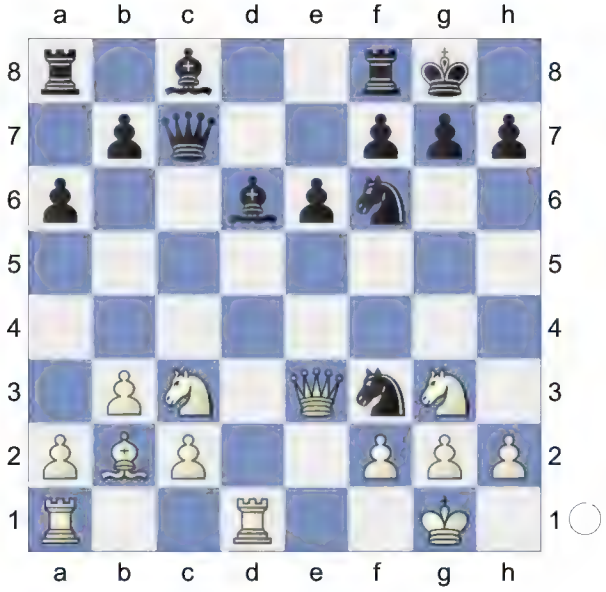
66 **C01**
□ **Magem Badals,Jordi** **2593**
■ **Oms Pallisse,Josep** **2528**
Magistral Barcelona ESP (1) 06.11.2010
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Nbd7

6.Nc3 c5
[6...Bd6 7.Nb5 0-0 *(7...Bb4+ 8.c3 a6 9.Nxc7+ Qxc7 10.cxb4 e5 11.Nh3 e4 12.Be2 Nd5 13.Bd2 N7f6 14.Rc1 Qd6 15.Qb3 0-0 16.Qg3 Qb6* 6) Odds and Ends-The Schlechter Variation The Aggressive French 2024*)* 8.Ne2 Bb4+ 9.c3 Ba5 10.0-0 c6 11.Nd6 Bc7 12.Nxc8 Rxc8 13.g3 e5 14.Bg2 Re8 15.a4 a6 16.Qb3 Rb8 17.Qc2 Qe7 18.dxe5 Nxe5 19.Nd4 Nd5 20.Bd2 Nc4 21.Rae1 1-0 (39) 6.♗e3 b6 7.Bc4 54459 (2608)-Brkic,V (2566) USSR 15/428 1973 (4.1)]
7.Nge2 cxd4 8.Qxd4 The position is equal. **8...Bc5 9.Qf4N**
[9.Qc4 0-0 10.Bf4 e5 11.Bg3 Qc7 12.Qh4 Rb8 13.0-0 b5 14.Rad1 b4 15.Nd5 Nxd5 16.Bxd5 Nf6 17.Bb3 Bb7 18.Kh1 Rbe8 19.Nc1 Qc6 20.f3 e4 21.Qf4 Nh5 22.Qg4 exf3 23.Qxf3 Qg6 ½-½ (31) Ketola,K (1937)-Goncharov,V (1621) Taastrup 97/(200) 2006 (7)]
9...Qe7 10.0-0 Bd6

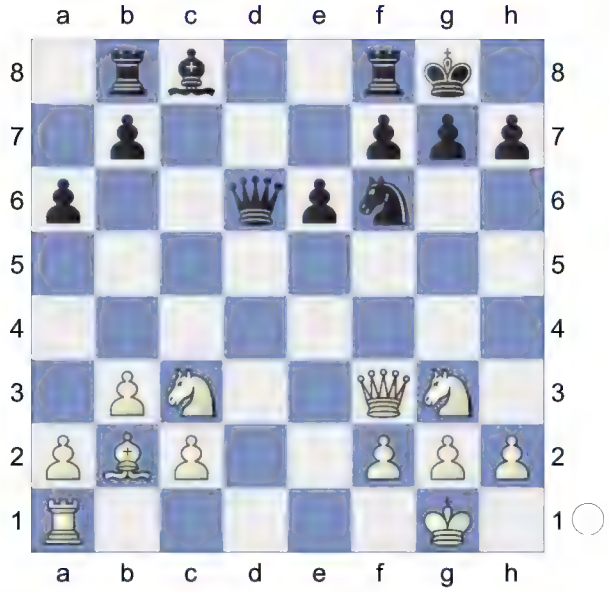


11.Qe3 a6 12.Ng3 Ne5 13.Rd1 0-0 14.b3 Qc7 15.Bb2 Nxf3+



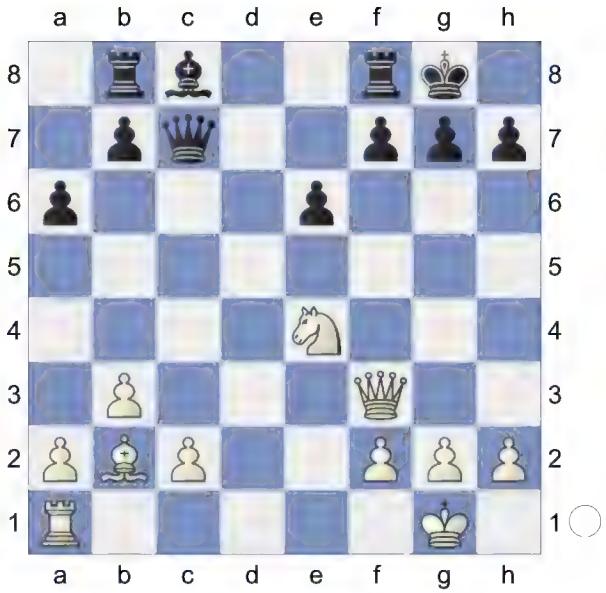
16.Qxf3 Rb8? 3.06/21
[16...Be5= 0.03/18 and Black has nothing to worry.]

This costs Black the game. **17.Rxd6!+- Qxd6**

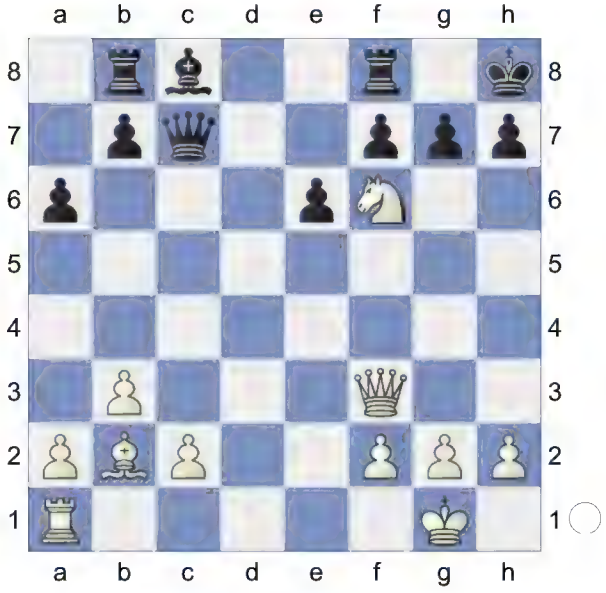


18.Nce4! Nxe4 19.Nxe4 Qc7? #7/16
[19...Qe7± 1.60/24]

(Diagram)

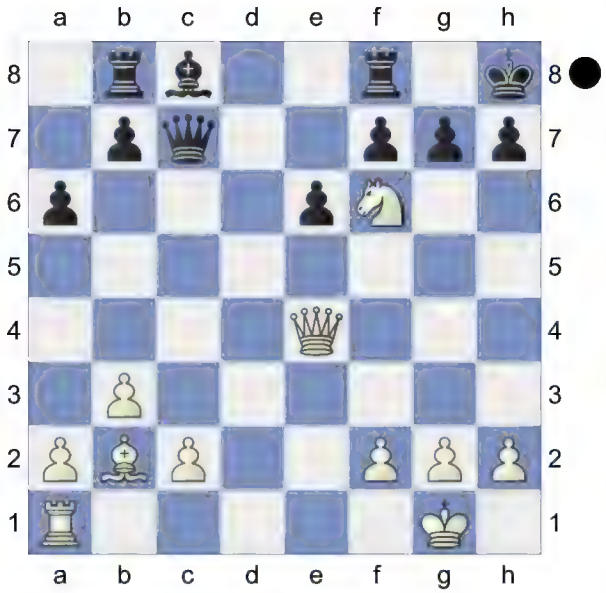


20.Nf6+! Kh8



21.Qe4!

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.79
1-0

67 **C01**
□ **Mamedov,Nidjat** **2583**
■ **Martinovic,Sa** **2504**
12. ch-EUR Aix les Bains FRA (1)
[ChessBase II]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 John Watson: 'White plays this just often enough that it pays Black to study it. From White's point of view, he might use this against a higher-rated player against whom a safe position might be desirable.' John Watson: 'White plays this just often enough that it pays Black to study it. From White's point of view, he might use this against a higher-rated player against whom a safe position might be desirable.' **3...dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**

(Diagram)

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.c3
[7.Be3 John Watson: 'is the old main line: White may have wanted to avoid' John Watson: 'is the old main line: White may have wanted to avoid'
A) after 7...e5 , 8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.dxe5 Qxd1+ 10.Kxd1 Ng4 11.Nd2 is worth a try, perhaps retaining a small advantage following John Watson: 'is worth a try, perhaps retaining a small advantage following' Nxe5 *(11...Ba6 12.Nc3 0-0-0 13.Re1)* 12.Re1 Ng4 13.Nf4 Kd7 14.Nd3 Nxe3+ 15.Rxe3 Kc7 , but it isn't much. John Watson: ', but it isn't much.';
B) 7...Nd5 , when a remarkable sequence can follow: 8.Bxd5!? *(8.Nbc3 Nxe3 9.fxe3 Be7)* 8...Qxd5
B1) 9.Nf4 Qf5;
B2) 9.0-0 cxd4 10.Nxd4 Nxd4 *(or 10...Be7 11.Nc3 Qc4=)* 11.Bxd4 Bd7 12.Nc3 Qf5 and .. .Bc6 with good prospects.;
B3) 9.Nbc3! is seen in the Archives game De Jong-

Archangelsky. Neil was perhaps too optimistic about this being a virtual refutation, as can be seen by John Watson: 'is seen in the Archives game De Jong-Archangelsky. Neil was perhaps too optimistic about this being a virtual refutation, as can be seen by' 9...Qxg2 10.Rg1 Qxh2 11.Bf4

B3a) 11...Qh3! 12.Nb5!? *(12.Rg3 Qh1+= 13.Rg1 Qf3 14.Rg3 Qh5!? 15.Nb5 cxd4!)* 12...f6! 13.Nc7+ *(13.d5 Nd4!* is unclear*)* 13...Kf7 14.Nxa8 *(14.d5!? Nd4)* 14...cxd4 15.Nxd4 Bb4+! 16.c3 Bxc3+ 17.bxc3 Qxc3+ 18.Kf1 Nxd4 and Black is temporarily a rook down, but has 4 pawns and good attacking chances, so best is John Watson: 'and Black is temporarily a rook down, but has 4 pawns and good attacking chances, so best is' 19.Be3! Qc4+ 20.Kg2 Ne2 21.Re1 Qg4+=;

B3b) 11...Qh5!? 12.Nb5! Ke7?! *(12...f6! 13.Nc7+ Kf7 14.Nxa8 cxd4 15.Qd3 g5 16.Bg3 e5* is messy*; 12...Kd7?? 13.dxc5+* was the Archives game*)* 13.Nc7 Rb8 14.Qd2 f6 15.d5!±]

7...cxd4

[I've never seen anything to convince me that 7...e5 doesn't equalise, e.g.,

A) 8.d5 e4! 9.Bxe4! Nxe4 10.0-0 Bd7 *(10...Ne7 11.Qa4+ Qd7 12.Qxe4 Qxd5* is unclear, maybe slightly in Black's favour John Watson: 'is unclear, maybe slightly in Black's favour' *)* 11.dxc6 Bxc6∓;

B) 8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.0-0 is the main line *(9.dxe5?! Qxd1+ 10.Kxd1 Ng4)* 9...Bd6 10.dxe5 Bxe5 11.Qxd8+ Kxd8 and Black has bishops and activity to compensate for his structure, e.g., John Watson: 'and Black has bishops and activity to compensate for his structure, e.g.,' 12.Na3 *(12.Bf4 Re8)* 12...Re8 13.Ng3 Ba6 14.Rd1+ Kc7 15.Be3 Kb6! 16.b4 Bxc3 17.Bxc5+ Kb7]

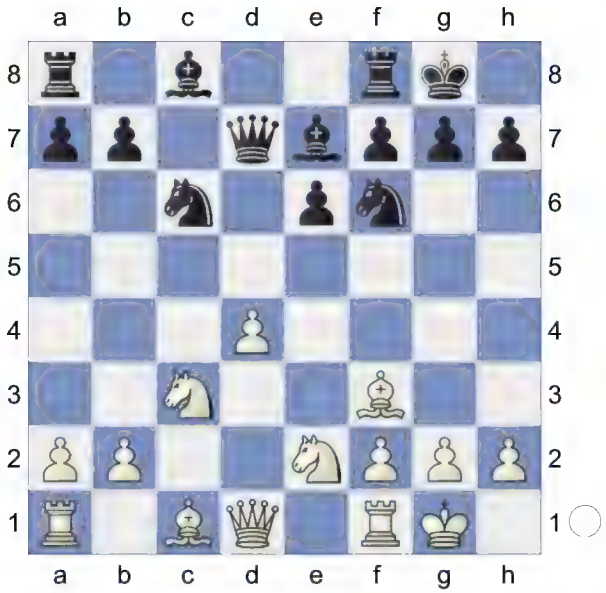
8.cxd4 Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Nbc3 Qd7N

[10...Nb4 11.Qb3 Nbd5 12.Rd1 0.05/19 *(12.Nxd5± 0.42/19 Nxd5 13.Nc3)* 12...b6= 13.Bg5]

[10...Qb6 with the idea is more natural, when John Watson: 'with the idea is more natural, when' 11.Be3 Rd8 *(11...Qxb2?!* 0.54/19 11...Rf8-d8 0.16 *12.a3! Nd5! 13.Nxd5 exd5 14.Qd3* Wards off Bc8-f5 *Qb6 15.Nc3)* 12.a3 is about equal.]

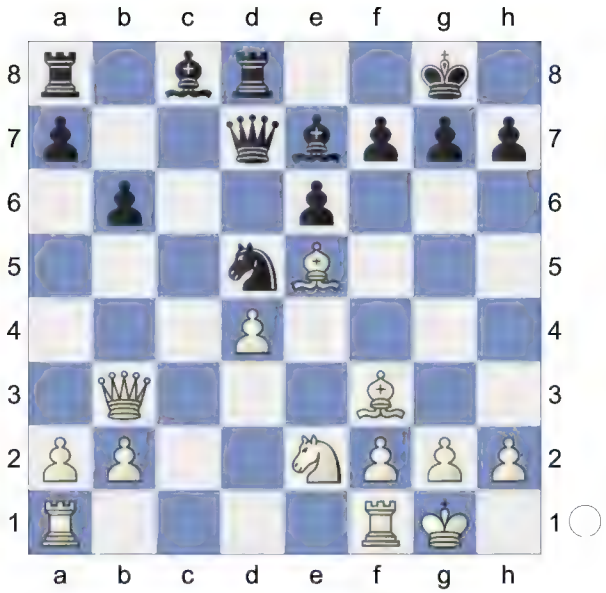
[10...Qa5 11.Be3 Rd8 12.Qb3 Qb4 13.Qc2 Nd5 14.Nxd5 exd5 15.a3 Qd6 16.Bf4 Qf6 17.Be3 Be6 18.Rad1 Bd6 19.Qd2 Ne7 20.Nc3 h6 21.Qe2 a6 22.g3 Rac8 23.Bg2 Bxa3 24.bxa3 Rxc3 25.Qb2 ½-½ (32) Sarrazin,C (1988)-Martinez, J (2059) Sautron op 14th 2014 (6)]

(Diagram)

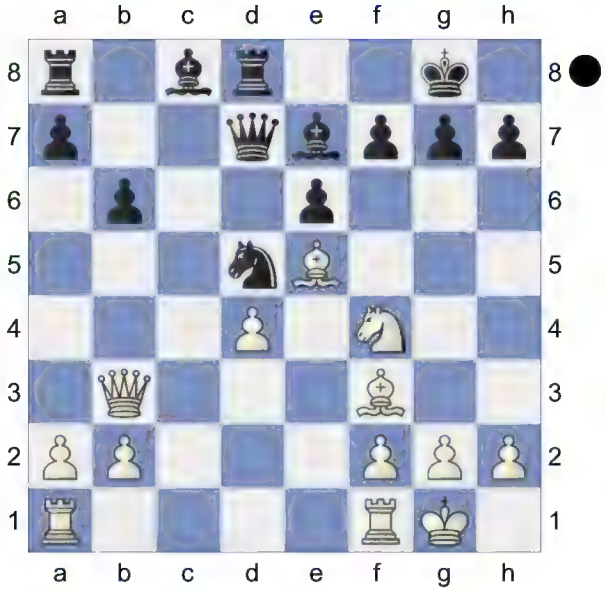


The position is equal. **11.Qa4 Rd8 12.Bf4** John Watson: '!?' '!?' '!?' '!?'
[12.Be3]
12...Nb4
[It's not clear what White's idea was on 12...Nxd4 . Perhaps 13.Qxd4 Qxd4 14.Nxd4 Rxd4 15.Be5 Rd8 *(15...Rc4!?)* 16.Rfd1 , although this is likely only equal after John Watson: ', although this is likely only equal after' Kf8 *(16...h6!?)* 17.Rxd8+ Bxd8 18.Rd1 Be7 19.Nb5 Ne8! 20.Bd4! a6 21.Na7 Nd6 22.Bc5 Ne8 23.Bd4=]
13.Qb3 Nbd5 14.Be5 b6 15.Nxd5! Nxd5

(Diagram)

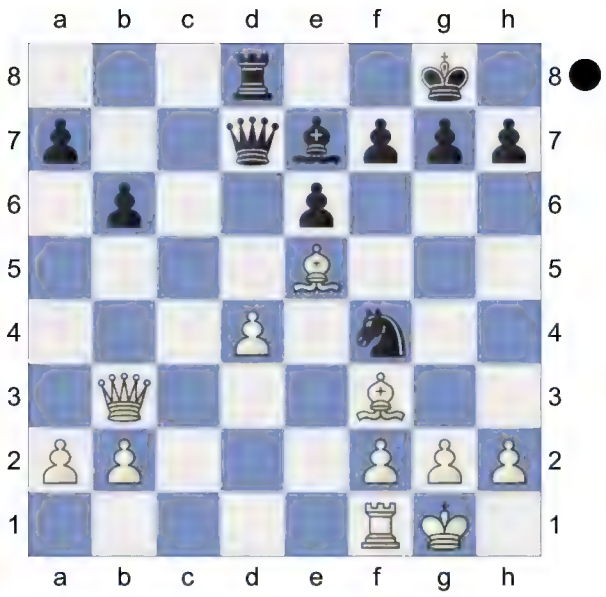


John Watson: 'Black has developed smoothly and stands well.' **16.Nf4** -0.23/22
[⌓16.Bxd5 0.19/21 Qxd5 17.Qg3]

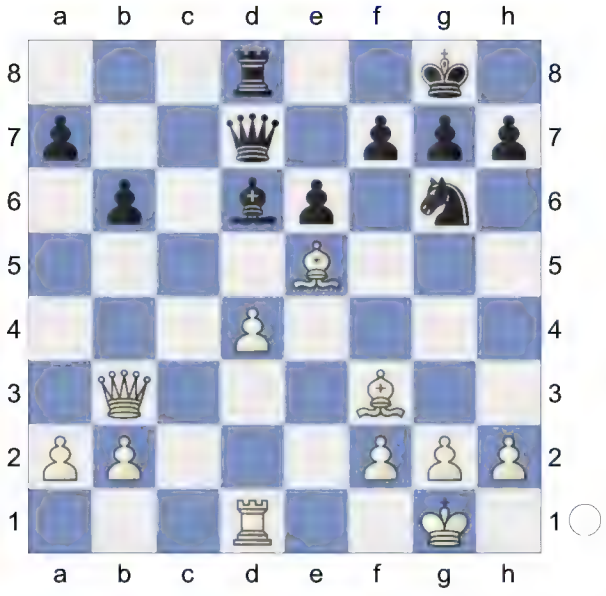


16...Nxf4!= 17.Bxa8
[17.Bxf4 Bb7ä]
17...Ba6 White must now prevent ...Nf4-e2+. Discovered Attack **18.Bf3 Bxf1 19.Rxf1**

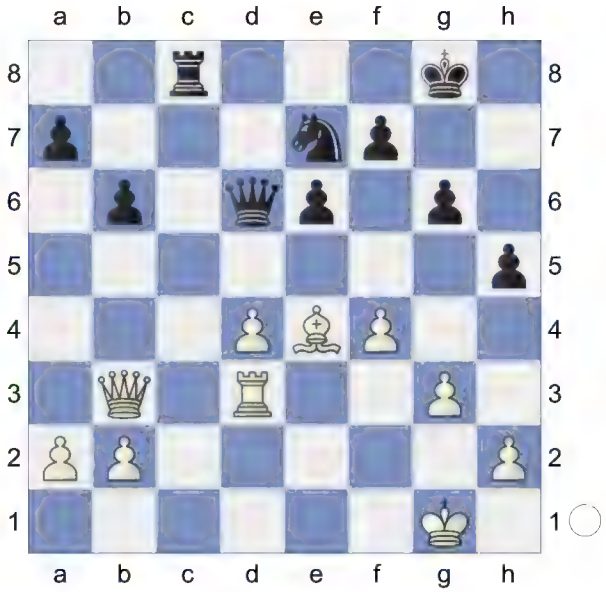
(Diagram)



Ng6 John Watson: 'Eliminating the bishops.' **20.Rd1 Bd6** 0.01/20
[20...Nxe5 21.dxe5 Qc7 22.Rxd8+ Bxd8 will doubtless be drawn due to the opposite-coloured bishops.]
[20...Nxe5∓ -0.77/22 21.dxe5 Qc7]

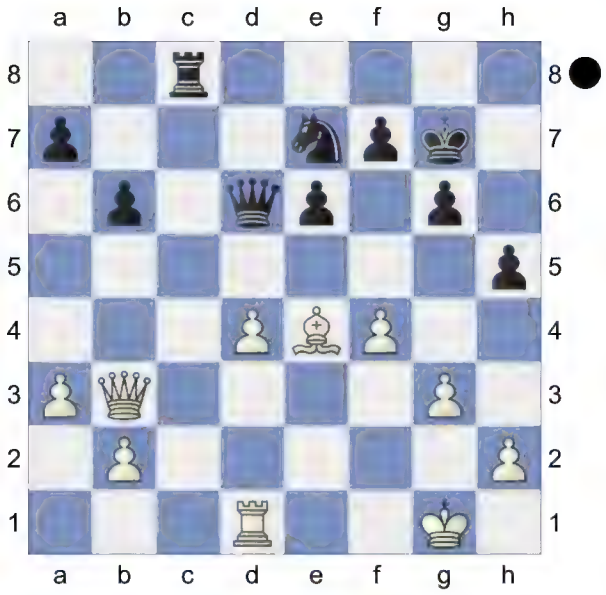


John Watson: '!?' '!?' '!?' '!?' **21.Bxd6 Qxd6 22.g3 Ne7 23.Be4** -0.47/20
[23.h4= -0.01/18 was preferrable.]
23...g6 24.f4 -1.10/22 John Watson: '?' '?' '?' '?' John Watson: 'Perhaps to prevent ...e5, but it's weakening. Better'
[24.Bf3]
[24.h4= -0.21/18 remains equal.]
24...h5 John Watson: '?!' '?!' '?!' '?!'
[24...Nc6! 25.Bxc6 *(25.d5 Ne7)* 25...Qxc6 and Black has excellent chances.]
25.Rd3
[25.Qb5!]
25...Rc8
[25...Nc6!]



26.Rd1 Kg7 27.a3

(Diagram)

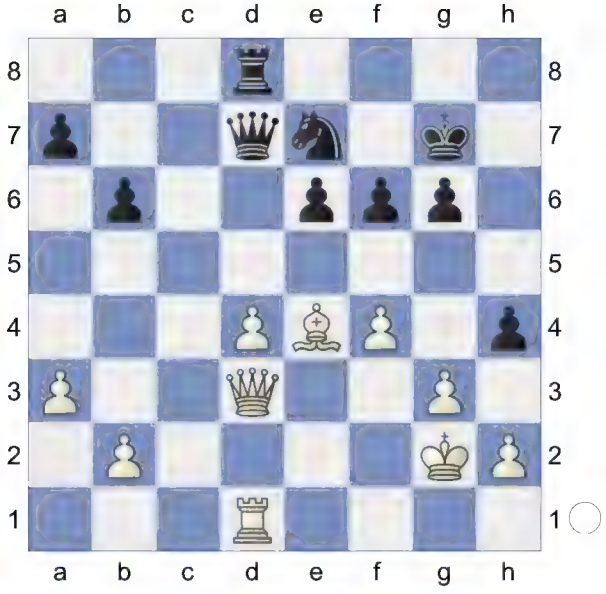


h4! 28.Qb5 f6 -0.44/19 John Watson: '?!' '?!' '?!' '?!'. Prevents Qb5-e5

[28...hxg3 29.hxg3 Nf5 *(29...Rh8* -0.10/23 29...Ne7-d5 -0.67 *)*]

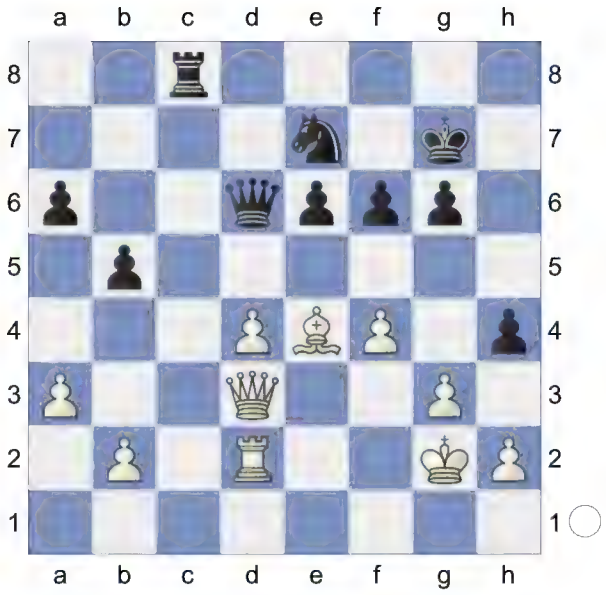
[28...Nd5∓ -0.99/20 Strongly threatening ...Nd5-e3. 29.Qe2 a5]

29.Qd3∓ Rd8 30.Kg2 Qd7



31.Rd2 Rh8 32.Qe2 b5 33.Kg1 a6 34.Kg2 Qd6 35.Qd3 Rc8

(Diagram)



36.Qe3 hxg3 37.hxg3 Rc4 -0.01/18

[37...Rd8∓ -0.53/19]

38.Kf2 -0.64/20

[38.b3= -0.01/18 Nd5 *(38...Qxa3 39.Bf3=)* 39.Qe2]

38...Kf7 39.Bb1 John Watson: '?!' '?!' '?!' '?!'

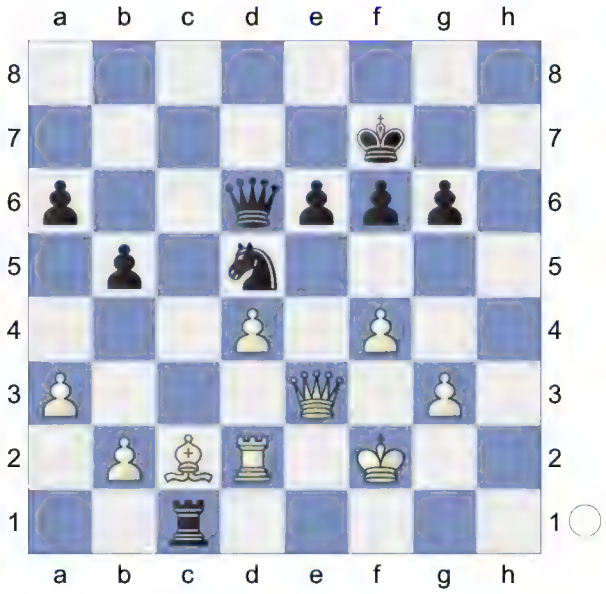
[39.Qd3 Nf5 40.d5! Hoping for d5xe6+. Rd4 41.Qe2]

39...Rc1 -0.33/22

[39...Nf5! 40.Bxf5 gxf5]

[39...Nf5∓ -0.75/21 40.Bxf5 gxf5]

40.Bc2 Nd5



41.Qe4 Qc6? 1.18/22 John Watson: '?' '?' '?' '?' John Watson: 'There is something wrong with the notation hereabouts.' John Watson: 'There is something wrong with the notation hereabouts.'

[41...f5 42.Qe5 Qc6 may well have been played, when Black shouldn't take a draw. John Watson: 'may well have been played, when Black shouldn't take a draw.']

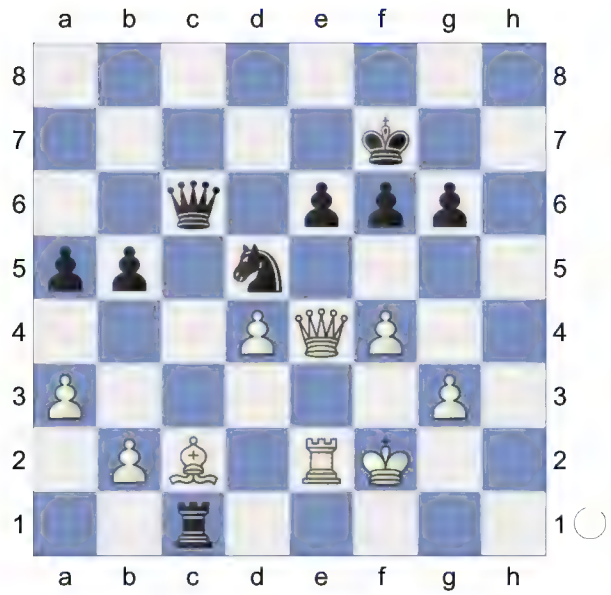
[41...f5∓ -0.34/28 keeps the upper hand. 42.Qe5 Qc6]

42.Re2? -4.36/24

[42.Qxg6+± 1.18/22 Ke7 43.Qg7+ Kd6 44.Bb3]

42...a5?? 6.54/25

[42...f5-+ -4.36/24 43.Qd3 Nf6]



Weighted Error Value: White=0.27 (precise) /Black=0.20 (precise) . An unexpected result.

½-½

68 **C01**

□ **Chernyshov,Konstantin** **2524**

■ **Svidler,Peter** **2713**

Voronezh m (2) 13.06.2003

[Hazai,Laszlo]

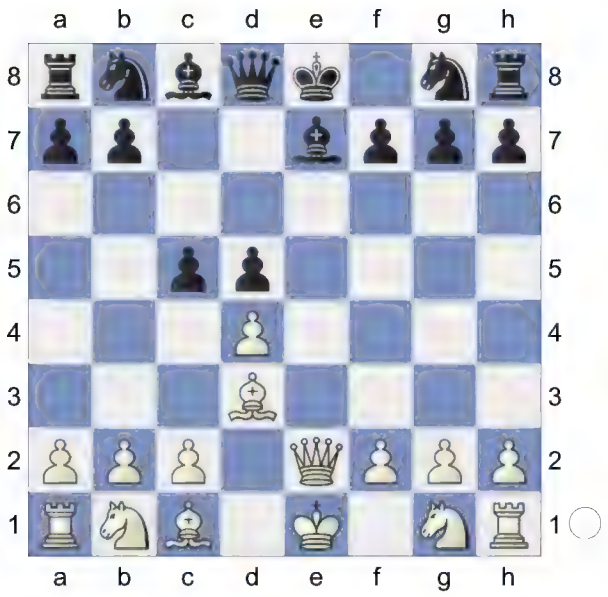
C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 Hazai Hazai **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3** This is mainly an Anti-Grunfeld idea. **3...c5 4.exd5 exd5 5.Qe2+**

[5.dxc5 Bxc5 6.Nf3 Nf6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc3 *(8.c3 Nc6 9.Nbd2 Bg4 10.Nb3 Bb6 11.Re1 Re8 12.Be2 Ne4 13.Nfd4 Bd7 14.Be3 Ne5 15.f3 Nd6 16.Bf2 Qf6 17.Qc2 Rac8 18.Rad1 h5 19.Nc1 h4 20.h3 Nf5 21.Bf1 Nxd4 22.Bxd4 Bxd4+* 0-1 (23) Khusnutdinov,R (2429)-Erigaisi,A (2778) FIDE World Bl Team Pool B blitz 2024 (1.13)*)* 8...h6 9.Bf4 Bg4 10.Qd2 Bb4 11.Bxh6 Re8 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.Qg5+ Kf8 14.Rae1 Be6 15.Nd4 Bxc3 16.Qh6+ Ke7 17.bxc3 Nc6 18.Bb5 Nxd4 19.Bxe8 Nf5 0-1 (33) 8.de5 ?e6 9.?e2 ?c5 (2501)-14.?d1 ?fd7 15.?d3 (2716) (m/8) 119/(106) 2013 (10)]

5...Be7

(Diagram)



6.dxc5N

[6.Bg5 c4 7.Qe5 f6 8.Bxf6 Nxf6 9.Bf5 Nc6 10.Qf4 Bxf5 11.Qxf5 Nxd4 12.Qe5 Nxc2+ 13.Kf1 Nxa1 14.Nf3 Qd6 15.Qe3 Nc2 16.Qe2 Nb4 17.Nd4 Qf4 18.Nf5 Qxf5 19.Na3 Kf7 20.h4 Rhe8 0-1 Schweier,S-Gremmer,S E0270 www.desc-online.de 1999]

6...Nf6 7.Be3 0-0 The idea with the following exchange on c3 looks a bit odd, although there were some games recently with similar ideas in the ♗g5 line. **8.Qd2 Ng4**

[8...Re8 9.Ne2∞ Psakhis-Gheorghiu, Palma de Mallorca 1989 48/771 Nc6?! 10.0-0 Ng4]

9.Ne2 Black has an edge. **9...Nxe3** Black gave up the important fianchettoed ♗ for some weak pawns on the «. It is hard to say that it looks a good business. **10.fxe3 Bxc5**

(Diagram)

...Qd8-b6 would now be deadly. **11.Nbc3?!** The ♘ was badly placed on h5, he would leave anyway. **11...g6**

[11...Be6± 12.0-0-0 Nc6 13.Nf4 avoiding the text was a real alternative. Qa5 14.a3! Now the ♘ is completely misplaced on the edge of the board. d4 15.exd4 Bxd4 16.Nxe6 against ♗h6 fxe6 17.Bc4]

[11...Nd7 12.0-0-0 Nf6! 13.Nf4! Be6]

12.0-0-0 ♗e2 and f3 do not harmonize together. **12...Nc6** Black wants to close the position against White's ♖. **13.Bb5** Now Black can breethe more freely.

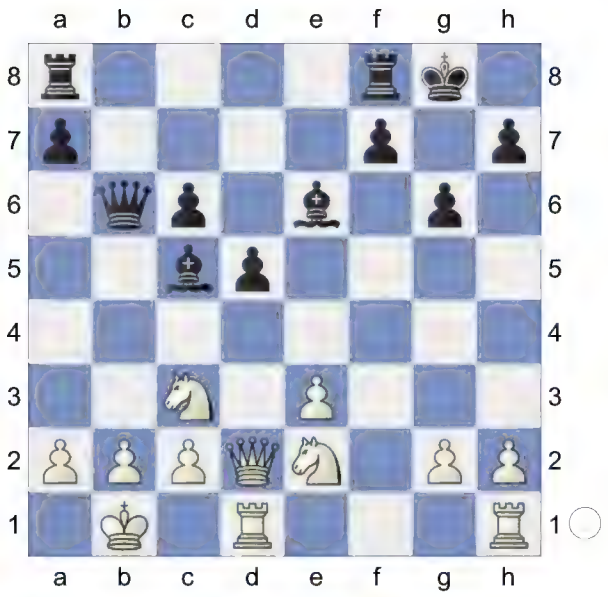
[13.Nf4↑ d4 looks simple and strong. 14.exd4 Bxd4 15.Kb1]

13...Qb6 14.Kb1 Be6

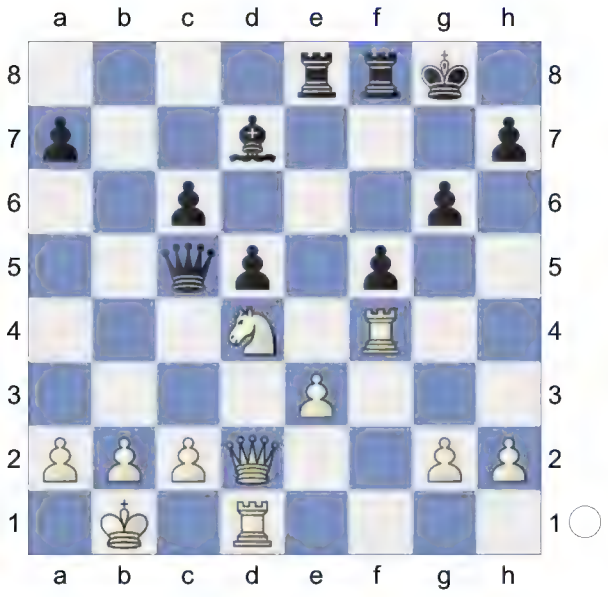
[14...Bxe3 15.Nxd5 Qxb5 *(15...Bxd2 16.Nxb6 axb6 17.Rxd2±)* 16.Qxe3+- *(16.Nxe3 Be6=)*]

15.Bxc6 bxc6

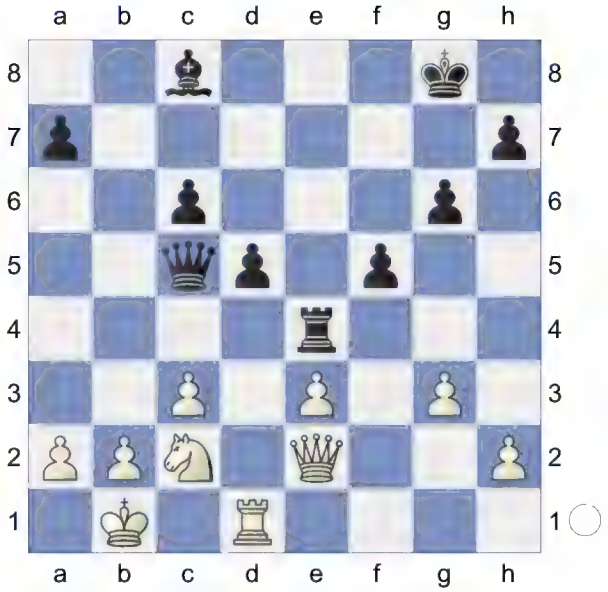
(Diagram)



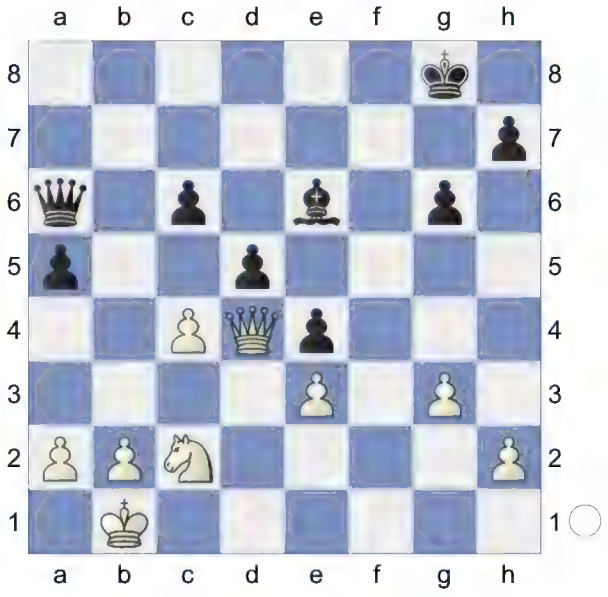
16.Na4 Qb4 17.Nxc5 This idea with the following breakthrough in the ⊞ is unjustified. **17...Qxc5 18.Nd4?! Rae8!** This is the strong reply!
[18...Rab8]
19.Rhf1 Bd7 20.Rf4 White sacrifices the ♙, but he has no real counterplay for it. **20...f5** 0.00/19
[20...Qe7∓ -0.42/19]



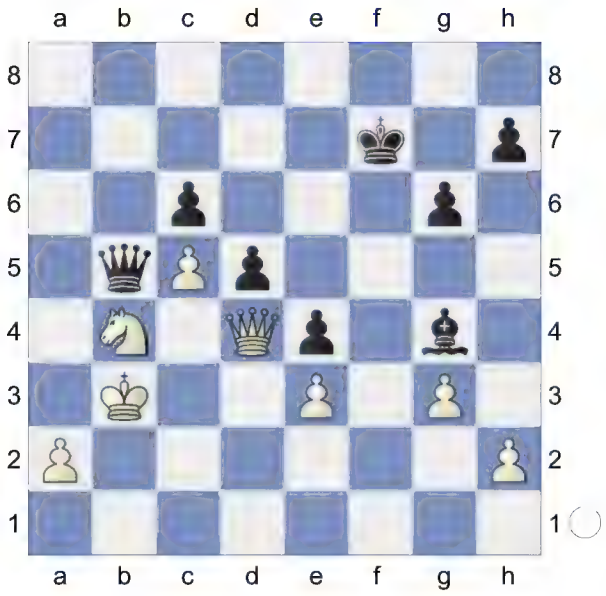
21.c3 Re5∓ 22.Nc2 Re4! and the rest is not interesting. **23.g3 Rfe8 24.Rxe4 Rxe4 25.Qe2** White is weak on the light squares **25...Bc8**



26.Rd4 a5
[26...Re8]
27.Qd3
[27.Rxe4 fxe4 28.Qf1]
27...Qb6
[27...Re8 repelling the first wawe of the →.]
28.Rxe4 fxe4= Endgame. KQB-KQN
29.Qd4 Qa6
[29...Qxd4 0.96/23 29...Qb6-a6 0.01 30.Nxd4 Bd7 31.Nb3]
30.c4 Be6

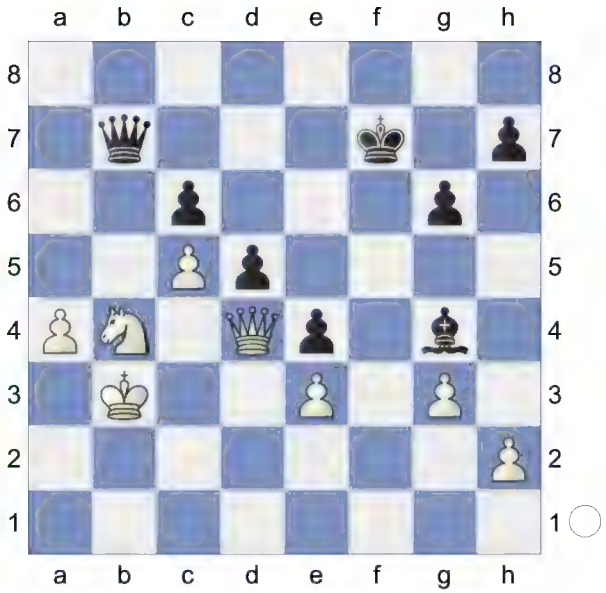


31.b4
[31.Qf6 Bf7 32.cxd5 Bxd5 33.Qd8+ Kg7 And now ...Qa6-f1+ would win. ✕c4 34.Qe7+]
31...axb4 32.Nxb4 Qa4 33.c5
[33.cxd5↑ cxd5 34.Qb6 Qd1+ 35.Kb2 Qd2+ 36.Nc2 In case of 36...Bg4 Black will try to organize a counterplay on the « against the doubled pawns. 37.Qb8+]
33...Qb5 34.Kb2 Bg4 35.Kb3 Black should prevent a2-a4. **35...Kf7** 0.61/23
[35...Qb8= 0.01/20]



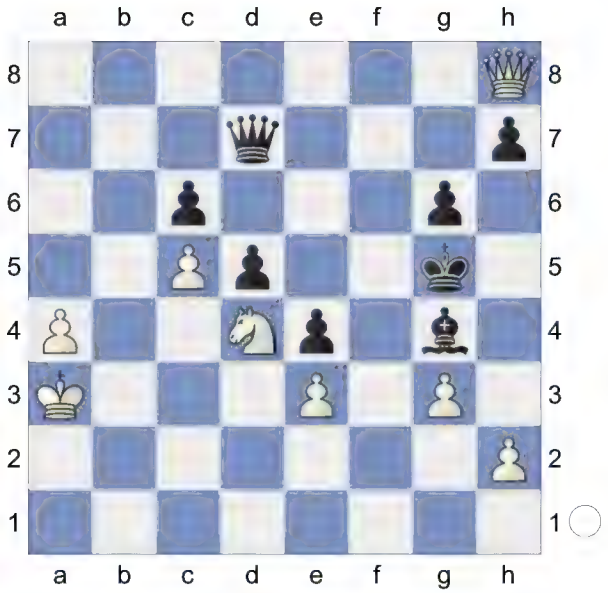
36.a4± Qb7 3.17/22
[36...Qb8]
[36...Qb8± 0.80/21]

(Diagram)

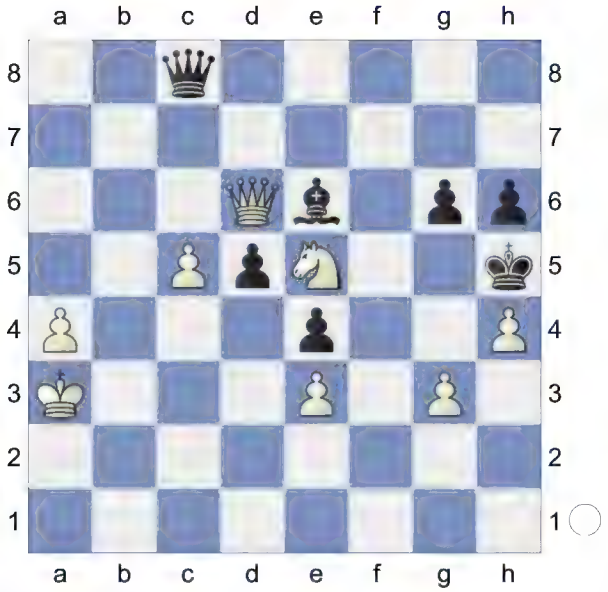


37.Ka3 1.42/23
[37.Qh8 Bd7 *(37...Ke6?!* 5.13/22 37...Bg4-c8 3.62runs into *38.Qe8+)* 38.Qxh7+ Kf6 39.a5]
[37.Qh8+- 3.17/22 Qc8 38.Qxc8 Remove Defender *(38.Qxh7+ Kf6=)* 38...Bxc8 39.Nxc6]
37...Ke6? 3.10/20 Loses the game.
[37...Bd7± 1.42/23]
38.Qh8+- Qd7 Repels Qh8-e8+ **39.Nc2 Kf5?** 18.94/26
[39...d4 3.03/19 40.Qg8+ *(40.exd4 Kf7+-; 40.Nxd4+ Kd5+-; 40.Qxd4 Qxd4 41.Nxd4+ Kd5+-)* 40...Kf6]
40.Nd4+? 2.56/5
[40.Qf8+ Kg5 41.Qf4+ Kh5 42.h3]
[40.Qf8+ 18.94/26 Kg5 41.Qf4+ Kh5 42.h3]
40...Kg5

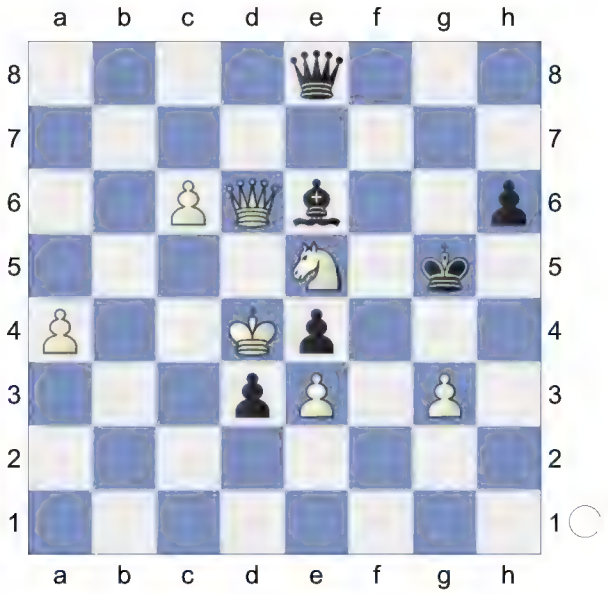
(Diagram)



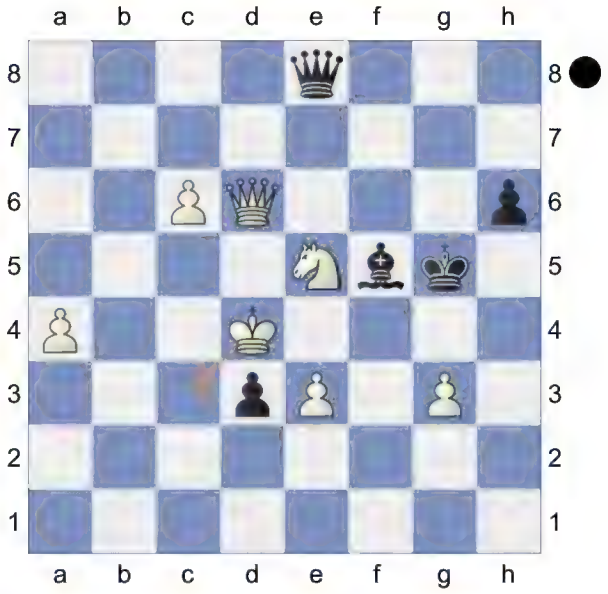
41.h4+
[41.Qe5+ Kh6 42.Qf4+ *(42.Qf6 Qc7+-)* 42...Kg7+-]
41...Kh5-+ **42.Qf6** Dodges Qd7-e7
42...h6 Prevents Qf6-g5+. **43.Nxc6 Qc8?** 6.90/21
[43...Bh3 3.76/18 44.Qd6 Qg7]
44.Qd6+- White is clearly winning.
44...Bf5 45.Ne5 Be6



46.c6 d4 47.Kb2 d3 48.Kc3 g5 49.hxg5 Kxg5 50.Kd4 4.88/20
[50.Qe7+]
[⌓50.Qe7+ 17.32/22 Kf5 51.Kd4 h5 52.Qh4 Bf7 53.Qh3+ Skewer *(53.Nxf7 Qxc6 54.Qf4+ Ke6 55.Nd8+ Kd7 56.Nxc6 d2 57.Ne5+ Kc8)* 53...Kf6 54.Qxc8 d2 55.Qd8+ *(55.Kxe4 Bd5+ 56.Kf4 d1Q+-)* 55...Kf5 56.Qd7+ *(56.Nxf7 d1Q+ 57.Kc5 Qc1+ 58.Kd6 Qa3+ 59.Kd7 Kg4+-)* 56...Be6 57.Qh7+ Skewer, Double Attack Kf6 58.Qxh5 *(58.Qxe4 d1Q+ 59.Kc5 Bf5+-)*]
50...Qe8

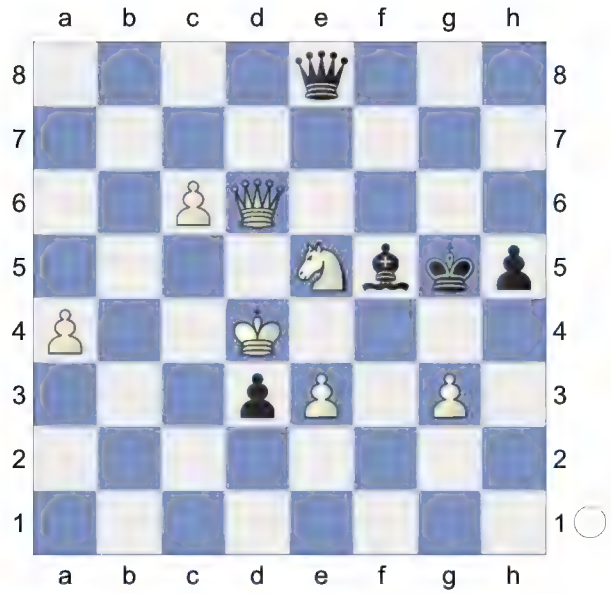


51.Kxe4 Bf5+ 52.Kd4



Hoping for Kd4-c3! **52...h5**

[52...h5 53.Nf3+ Kg4 54.Qf4+ Kh3 55.Qxf5+]



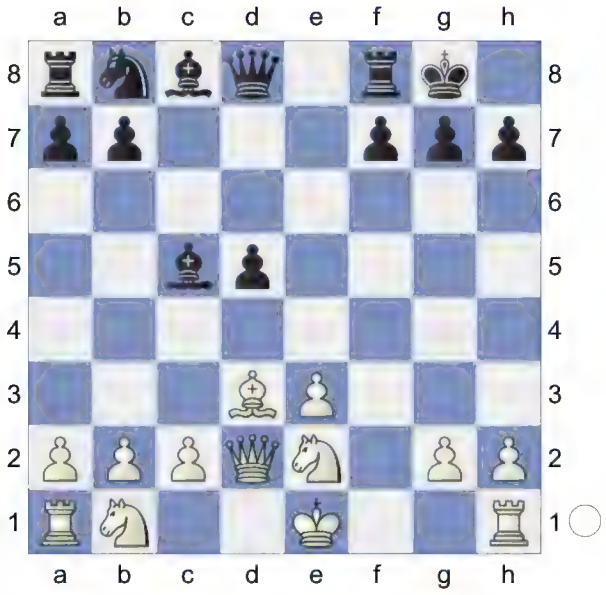
Weighted Error Value: White=0.45/ Black=0.48. Loss on time!?
0-1

69 **C01**
□ **Chernyshov,Konstantin** **2564**
■ **Kosic,Dragan** **2485**
FSGM May Budapest HUN (1) 16.05.11
[Watson,John]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.exd5 exd5 Now we've transposed to 3 exd5 exd5 4 Bd3 c5, a standard solution. John Watson: 'Now we've transposed to 3 exd5 exd5 4 Bd3 c5, a standard solution.' **5.Qe2+?!** A very common idea at lower levels but it is at best unimpressive, exposing White's queen for a temporary pawn capture. John Watson: 'A very common idea at lower levels but it is at best unimpressive, exposing White's queen for a temporary pawn capture.'
[5.dxc5 Bxc5 6.Nf3 Nf6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc3 *(8.c3 Nc6 9.Nbd2 Bg4 10.Nb3 Bb6 11.Re1 Re8 12.Be2 Ne4 13.Nfd4 Bd7 14.Be3 Ne5 15.f3 Nd6 16.Bf2 Qf6 17.Qc2 Rac8 18.Rad1 h5 19.Nc1 h4 20.h3 Nf5 21.Bf1 Nxd4 22.Bxd4 Bxd4+* 0-1 (23) Khusnutdinov,R (2429)-Erigaisi,A (2778) FIDE World Bl Team Pool B blitz 2024 (1.13)*)* 8...h6 9.Bf4 Bg4 10.Qd2 Bb4 11.Bxh6 Re8 12.Bxg7 Kxg7 13.Qg5+ Kf8 14.Rae1 Be6 15.Nd4 Bxc3 16.Qh6+ Ke7 17.bxc3 Nc6 18.Bb5 Nxd4 19.Bxe8 Nf5 0-1 (33) 8.de5 ?e6 9.?e2 ?c5 (2501)-14.?d1 ?fd7 15.?d3 (2716) (m/8) 119/(106) 2013 (10)]
5...Be7

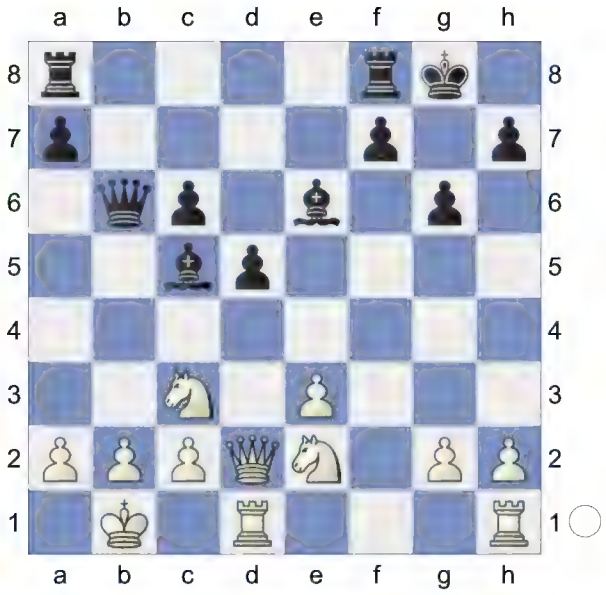
6.dxc5N
[6.Bg5 c4 7.Qe5 f6 8.Bxf6 Nxf6 9.Bf5 Nc6 10.Qf4 Bxf5 11.Qxf5 Nxd4 12.Qe5 Nxc2+ 13.Kf1 Nxa1 14.Nf3 Qd6 15.Qe3 Nc2 16.Qe2 Nb4 17.Nd4 Qf4 18.Nf5 Qxf5 19.Na3 Kf7 20.h4 Rhe8 0-1 Schweier,S-Gremmer,S E0270 www.desc-online.de 1999]

6...Nf6 7.Be3 0-0 8.Qd2 Ng4
[8...Re8 already yields Black a small advantage following John Watson: 'already yields Black a small advantage following' 9.Ne2 Nc6 10.0-0 Ng4∓]
9.Ne2 The position is equal. **9...Nxe3 10.fxe3 Bxc5**

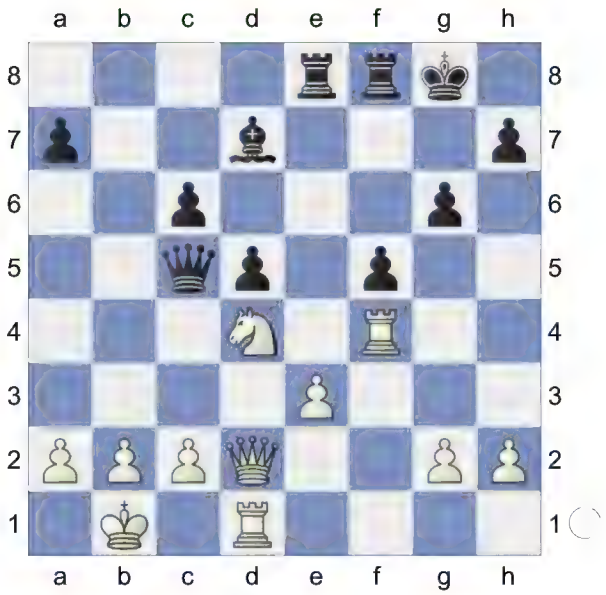


aiming for ...Qd8-b6. **11.Nbc3** Intending Nxd5. **11...g6!?** Alternatives:
[11...Be6 12.0-0-0 Nc6 13.Nf4 Qa5 14.a3 d4 15.exd4 Bxd4 16.Nxe6! fxe6 17.Bc4 is complex.]
[11...Nd7 12.0-0-0 Nf6 13.Nf4 Be6]
12.0-0-0 Nc6 13.Bb5!?
[13.Nf4! d4 14.exd4 Bxd4 15.Kb1=]
13...Qb6 14.Kb1 Be6
[14...Bxe3 15.Nxd5 Qxb5 *(15...Bxd2 16.Nxb6 axb6 17.Rxd2±)* 16.Qxe3+- *(16.Nxe3 Be6=)*]
15.Bxc6 bxc6

(Diagram)



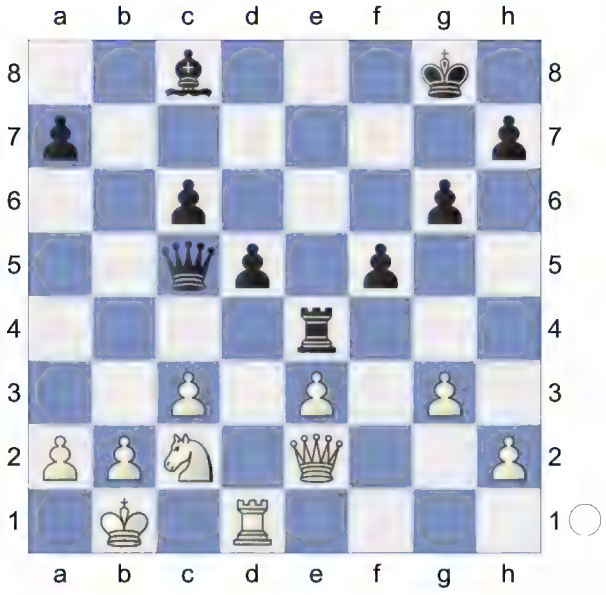
16.Na4 Qb4 17.Nxc5 Qxc5 18.Nd4 Rae8
[18...Rab8 is a bit more forceful. Still, the position is only slightly in Black's favour. John Watson: 'is a bit more forceful. Still, the position is only slightly in Black's favour.']
19.Rhf1 Bd7 20.Rf4 -0.52/20
[20.h3= -0.16/18]
20...f5 0.08/18
[Black should play 20...Qe7∓ -0.52/20]



21.c3 -0.30/17

[⌓21.Re1 0.08/18]

21...Re5 22.Nc2! Re4 23.g3 Rfe8 24.Rxe4 Rxe4 25.Qe2 White is weak on the light squares **25...Bc8!**



Now ...Qb6 and ... Ba6 is an idea. John Watson: 'Now ...Qb6 and ... Ba6 is an idea.' **26.Rd4 a5?!**

[26...Re8∓]

27.Qd3

[27.Rxe4! fxe4 28.Qf1! and I prefer White.]

27...Qb6?!

[27...Re8]

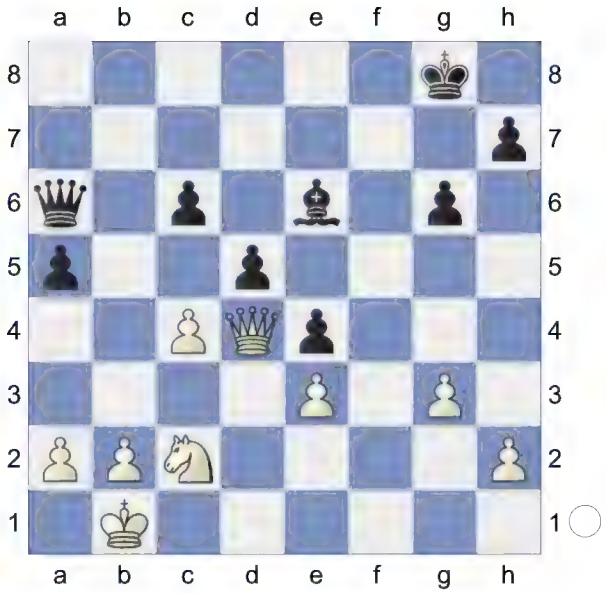
28.Rxe4 fxe4= Endgame. KQB-KQN

29.Qd4 Qa6

[29...Qxd4? 1.08/25 29...Qb6-a6 0.01 30.Nxd4 wins a pawn, e.g., Bd7 31.Nb3]

30.c4!? Be6

(Diagram)



31.b4

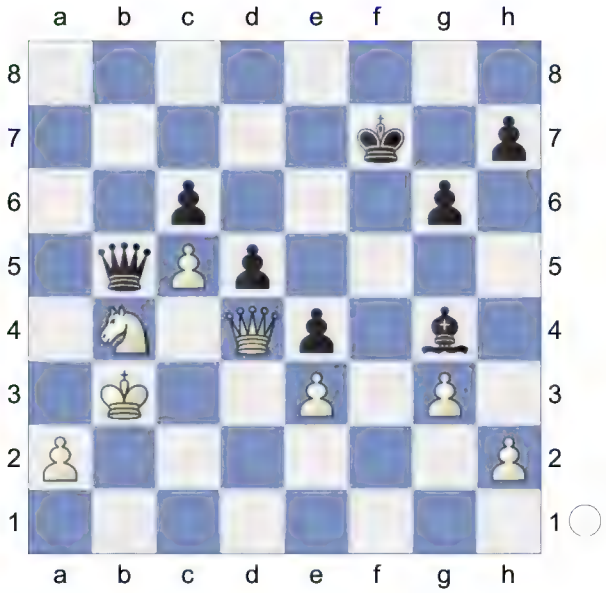
[31.Qf6 Bf7 32.cxd5 Bxd5 33.Qd8+ Kg7 And now ...Qa6-f1+ would win. 34.Qe7+=]

31...axb4 32.Nxb4 Qa4 33.c5

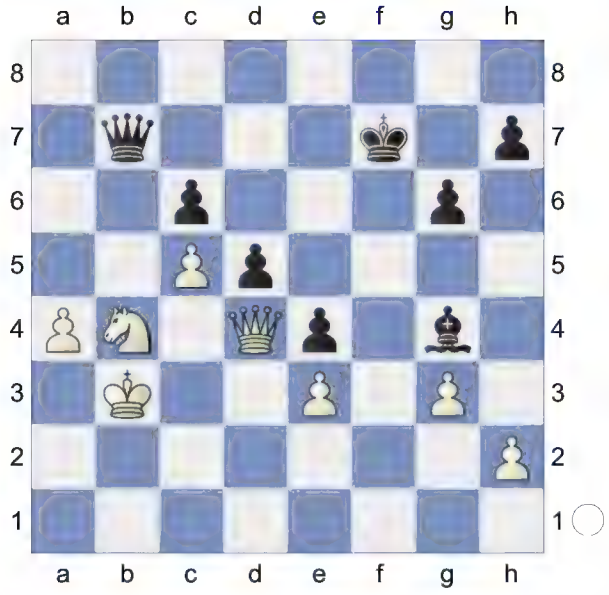
[33.cxd5 cxd5 34.Qb6! Qd1+ 35.Kb2 Qd2+ 36.Nc2 Bg4 37.Qb8+=]

33...Qb5 34.Kb2 Bg4 35.Kb3 Strongly threatening a2-a4. **35...Kf7** 0.60/23

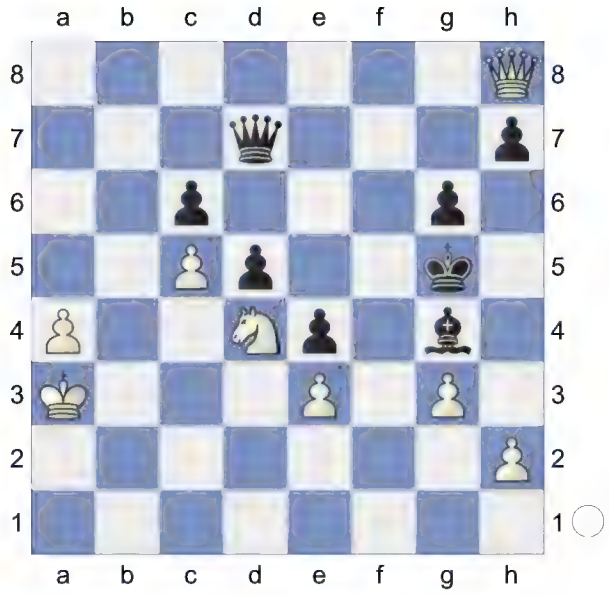
[35...Qb8= 0.01/21]



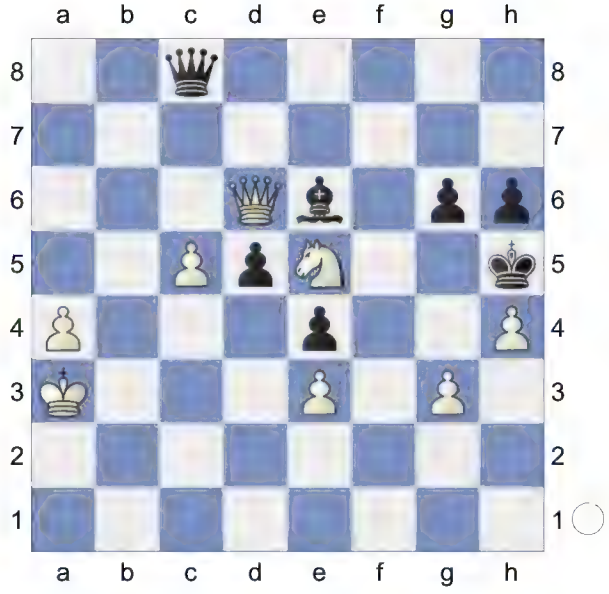
36.a4± Qb7 3.65/23
[36...Qb8!]
[36...Qb8± 0.82/22]



A mistake that costs the game. **37.Ka3?** 1.50/18
[37.Qh8! wins, in view of Bd7 *(37...Ke6 38.Qe8+)* 38.Qxh7+ Kf6 4.55/20 *(⌓38...Kf8* 3.17/20 *39.Qxg6 Be8)* 39.a5 etc.]
[37.Qh8+- 3.65/23 Bd7 38.Qxh7+ Kf6 39.a5]
37...Ke6? 2.73/22 But Black is in big trouble anyway.
[37...h5± 1.50/18 was worth a try. 38.Qh8 Bd7 39.Qh7+ Kf6]
38.Qh8!+- Qd7 Repels Qh8-e8+ **39.Nc2 Kf5?** 16.24/25
[39...d4 2.64/17 40.Qg8+ *(40.exd4 h5±; 40.Nxd4+ Kd5+-; 40.Qxd4 Qxd4 41.exd4 Kd7+-)* 40...Kf6]
40.Nd4+!? 2.40/5
[40.Qf8+! Kg5 41.Qf4+ Kh5 42.h3 wins a piece and then more.]
[⌓40.Qf8+ 16.24/25 Kg5 41.Qf4+ Kh5 42.h3]
40...Kg5
(Diagram)



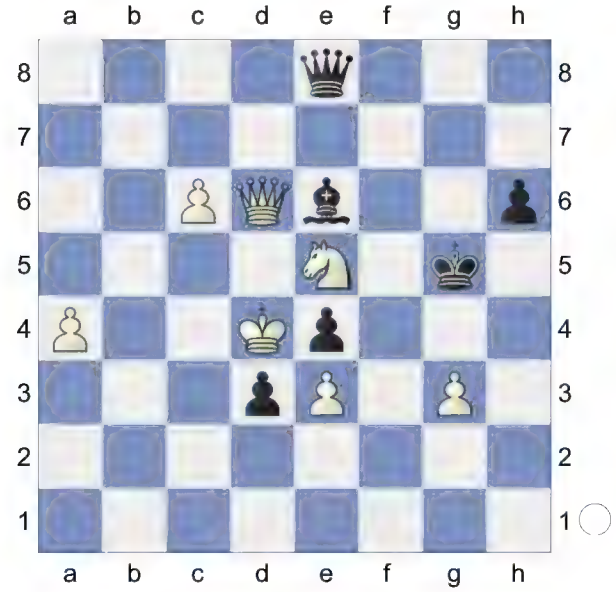
41.h4+
[41.Qe5+ Kh6 42.Qb8 *(42.Qf6 Bh3+-)* 42...g5]
41...Kh5 42.Qf6 Prevents Qd7-e7
42...h6 Dodges Qf6-g5+ **43.Nxc6**
[43.Qxc6 Qxc6 44.Nxc6 Bc8±]
43...Qc8? 6.11/21
[43...Bf5 3.36/19 44.Ne5 Qe6 45.Qxe6 Bxe6]
44.Qd6 Bf5 45.Ne5 Be6



46.c6 d4 47.Kb2 d3 48.Kc3 Zugzwang. **48...g5 49.hxg5 Kxg5 50.Kd4** 4.90/19

[50.Qe7+]
[⌓50.Qe7+ 17.84/20 Kf5 51.Kd4 h5 52.Qh4 Bf7 53.Qh3+ Skewer *(53.Nxf7 Qxc6 54.Qf4+ Ke6 55.Nd8+ Kd7 56.Nxc6 d2 57.Ne5+ Kc8 58.Qf8+ Kb7)* 53...Kf6 54.Qxc8 d2 55.Qd8+ *(55.Kxe4 Bd5+ 56.Kf4 d1Q 57.Qf5+ Ke7 58.Qd7+ Kf6 59.Qd6+ Kg7 60.Qg6+ Kh8)* 55...Kf5 56.Kc5 *(56.Nxf7 d1Q+ 57.Kc5 Qc1+ 58.Kd6 Qa3+ 59.Kd7 Kg4+-)*]

50...Qe8

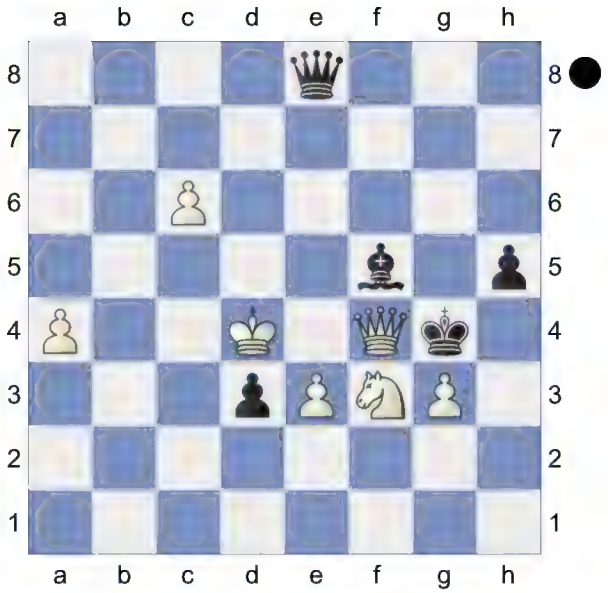


51.Kxe4 Bf5+ 52.Kd4 h5 17.51/18 and resigns, in view of

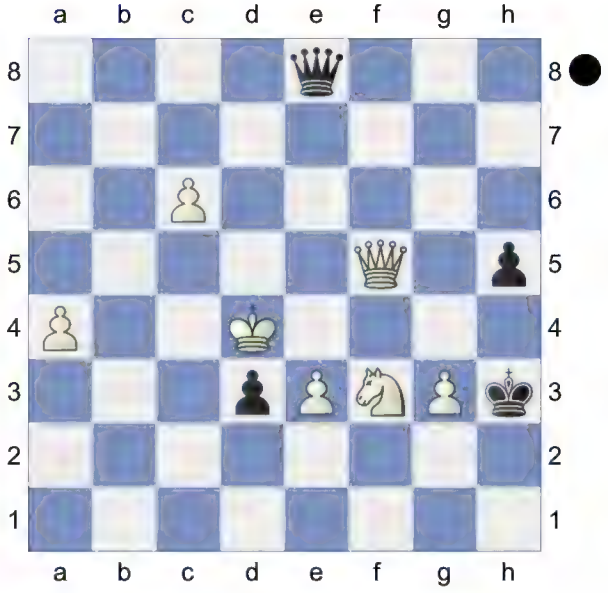
[⌓52...d2 4.88/18 53.Nf3+ Kh5 54.Nxd2 Qh8+ 55.Qe5 Qd8+ 56.Qd5 *(56.Kc3 Qd3+ 57.Kb4 Qxd2+ 58.Kb5 Qd3+ 59.Ka5 Kg6±)* 56...Qf6+ 57.Kc5 *(57.Kc4 Kg6+-)* 57...Kg6]

53.Nf3+ Kg4 54.Qf4+

(Diagram)



Deflection **54...Kh3 55.Qxf5+**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.40/ Black=0.53

1-0

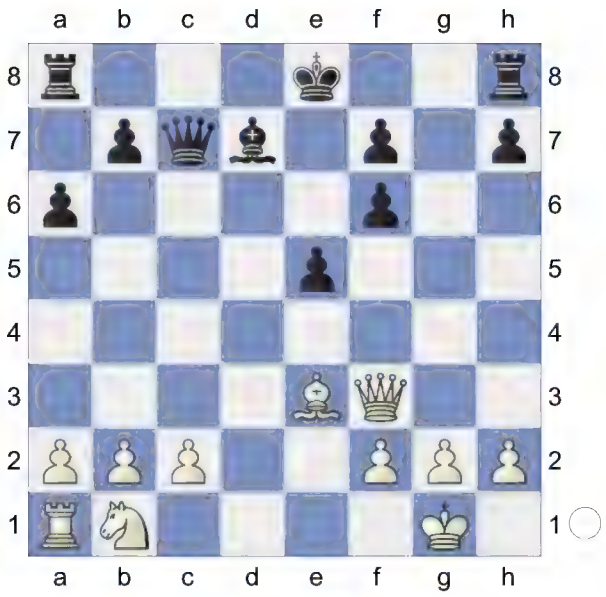
70 **C01**
□ **Bluvshtein,Mark** **2502**
■ **Lputian,Smbat G** **2634**
Olympiad-36 Mallorca (6) 20.10.2004
[Psakhis,Lev]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 Psakhis,L Psakhis **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4**
[3...c5]
4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

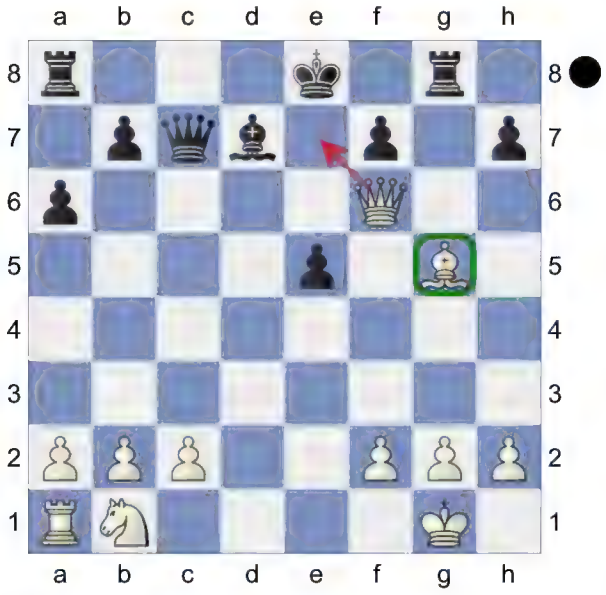
6.Ne2 Nc6
[6...cxd4 7.Nxd4 Bc5]
7.Be3 cxd4
[7...Nd5 8.Bxd5? Qxd5! 9.Nbc3 Qxg2 10.Rg1?? Qxh2!-+ Threatens to win with ...c5xd4. 11.Bf4! Qh5 White must now prevent ...c5xd4. 12.Nb5]
8.Nxd4 Ne5 The position is equal.
[8...Nxd4 0.43/20 8...Nc6-e5 -0.04 9.Bxd4 *(9.Qxd4!? Nd5 10.Bd2±)* 9...Be7 10.0-0 0-0 11.c4!?]
9.0-0 Nxf3+
[9...Be7]
10.Qxf3 e5
[10...Be7 11.Rd1 Nd4xe6! is the strong threat. Qa5? 1.17/20 *(11...Bd7± 0.39/20)* 12.Nc6]

11.Nb5 a6 12.Rd1 Bd7N
[12...Qa5 13.N5c3 Be7 *(13...Qc7 14.Bg5 Be7 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Nd5 Qc6 17.Qa3 Bg4 18.Nxf6+ gxf6 19.f3 Be6 20.Nc3 f5 21.Rd6 Qc7 22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.Rxd5 Rd8 24.Rad1 Rxd5 25.Rxd5 f6 26.Qd3 f4 27.Qf5 Ke7 28.h4* 1-0 (40) 4.d4 Nf6 5.Bc4 (2825)-Sudgen,J (2791) CLA-007 VCC 2002 (3)) 14.Nd2 0-0 15.Nde4 Be6 10.000 Nd4 11.Qd4 GCT Rapid Paris 2019]
13.Nd6+N Bxd6 14.Rxd6 Qc7 Against Nb1-c3. Black is now going downhill.
[14...0-0 Hoping for ...Bd7-g4! 15.Bg5 -0.45/21 *(15.Nc3± 0.60/18 Qe7 16.Bc5)*]
15.Rxf6 gxf6

(Diagram)



16.Qxf6 Rg8 17.Bg5



Bc6!? 1.53/22

[Black should try 17...Be6 1.05/22]

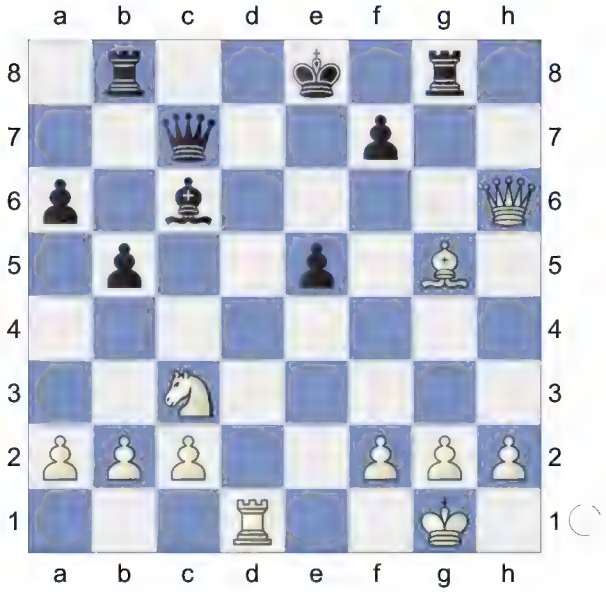
18.Nc3± aiming for Ra1-e1. Black is weak on the dark squares **18...h6** Now we can see, that Black has succeeded in solving his opening problems. **19.Qxh6**

[19.Bxh6? Rxg2+ *(19...Bxg2 20.Re1±)* 20.Kf1 Rxh2 21.Qh8+ Kd7 22.Rd1+ Ke6 23.Qxa8 Bf3 *(23...Rxh6 24.Qf8=)* 24.Qe8+ Kf5-+]

19...b5? 3.97/24

[19...Qd7 1.73/22 might work better. 20.Qf6 Qe6]

20.Rd1+- Rb8



21.Qf6 Kf8 11.07/26

[⌓21...b4 4.09/22 22.Re1 *(22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.Rxd5 Rxg5+-)* 22...Rxg5 23.Qxg5 Kf8]

22.Bh6+! 5.45/5 A straightforward approach - White wants to open as many files as possible.

[⌓22.Nd5 11.07/26 White threatens Bg5-h6+ and mate. Bxd5 23.Bh6+ *(23.Rxd5 Rxg5 24.Qxg5 Qxc2+-)* 23...Ke8 24.Rxd5]

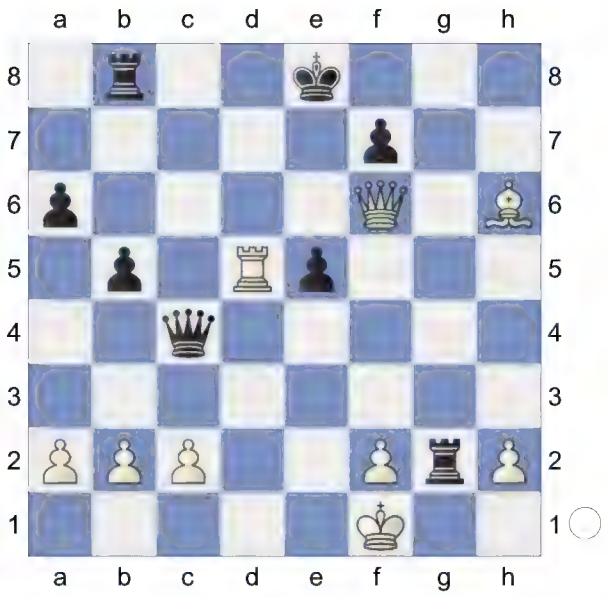
22...Ke8 And now ...Rg8-g6! would win.

23.Nd5 Rxg2+ 24.Kf1

[24.Kxg2? 2.13/23 24.Kg1-f1 8.01 Rd8]

24...Bxd5 25.Rxd5 Qc4+!

(Diagram)



26.Rd3!

[26.Kxg2? -0.79/22 26.Rd5-d3 8.19 Qxd5+?!]

[26.Ke1 Rg1+ 27.Kd2!? A necessary prophylactic move. Qxd5+?!]

26...Qe4

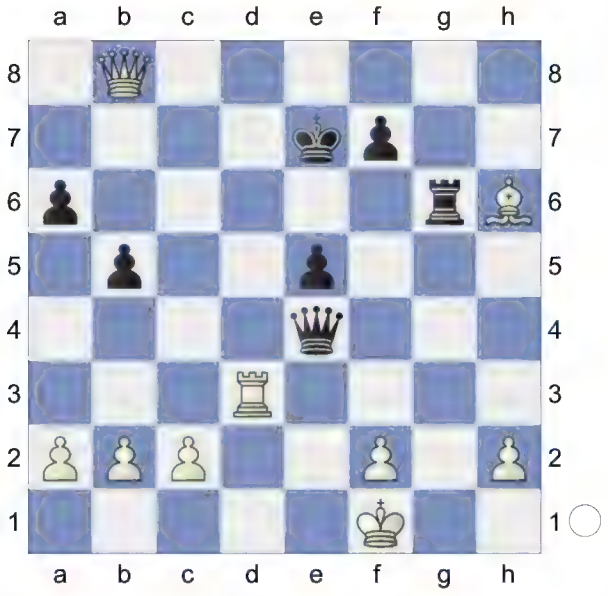
[26...e4 27.Qe5+]

[26...Rg6 27.Qxe5+]

27.Qh8+ Skewer

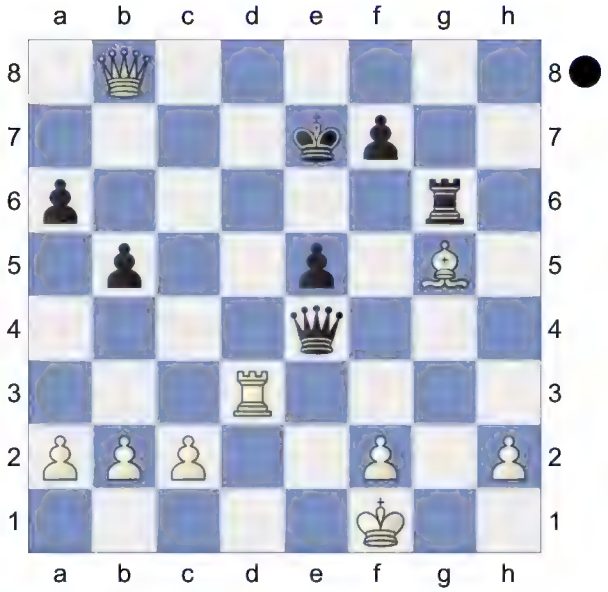
[27.Qxa6 Rxh2 28.Be3 Rh1+ 29.Ke2 Qg4+ 30.f3 Qc4-+]

27...Ke7 28.Qxb8 Rg6



Against Qb8-d6+After the move in the game Lputian has to be very careful in order to be able to keep the balance.

29.Bg5+!



Weighted Error Value: White=0.56/ Black=0.65. Loss on time!?Seemingly, this move escaped Lputian's attention. White has the upper hand.

0-1

71 **C01**

□ **Arribas Lopez,Angel** **2521**

■ **Rozman,Levy** **2394**

UT Fall Open 2016 (2.14) 19.11.2016

[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation

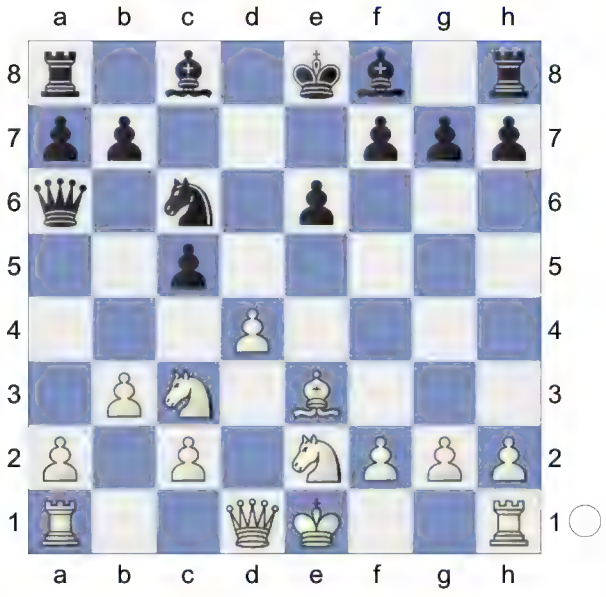
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

(Diagram)

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 Nd5 8.Bxd5 Qxd5 White is slightly better. **9.Nbc3 Qc4** 0.66/18

[9...Qxg2= 0.24/21 is superior. 10.Rg1 Qxh2]

10.b3± Qa6



11.dxc5 Be7 12.Qd3! Qa5N

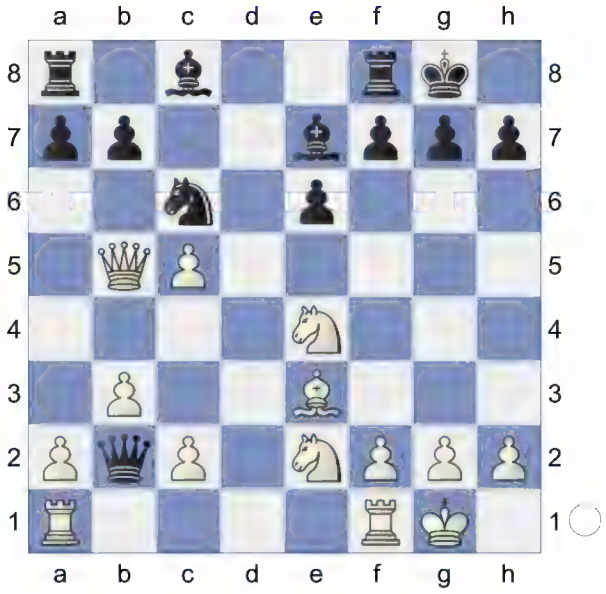
[12...Qxd3 13.cxd3 1...e6 - French 3. Bd3-1...e6 - French 3.Bd3 #470]

13.Qb5 Qa3 14.0-0 White is more active. **14...0-0 15.Ne4** 0.46/20

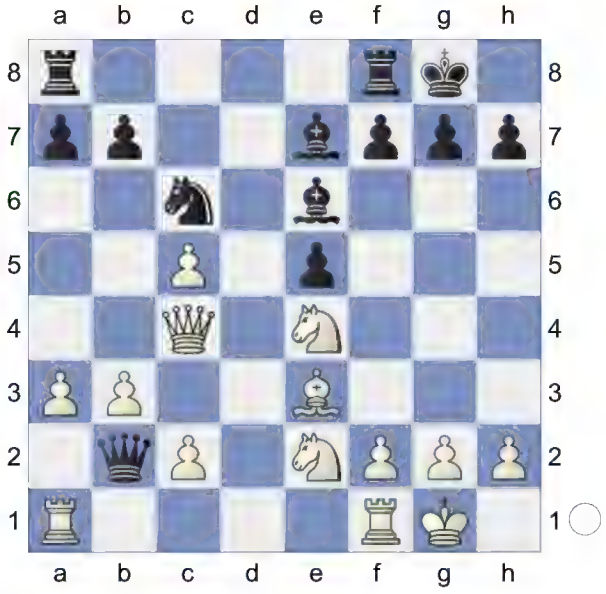
[15.Rfd1± 1.06/20]

15...Qb2 1.11/20

[15...a6!± 0.46/20 16.Qc4 e5]

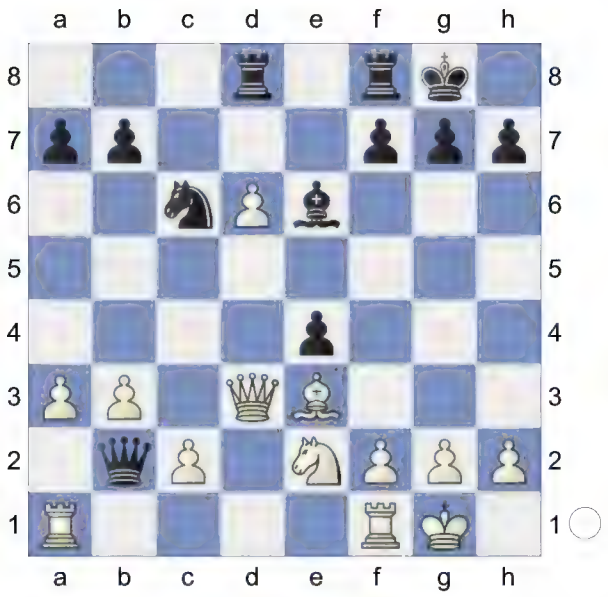


16.Qc4± e5 17.a3 Be6

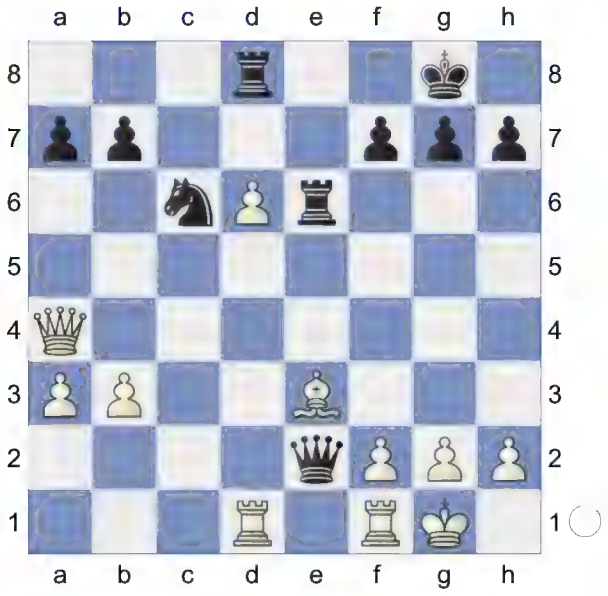


18.Qd3 Rad8 19.Nd6 Bxd6 20.cxd6 e4

(Diagram)

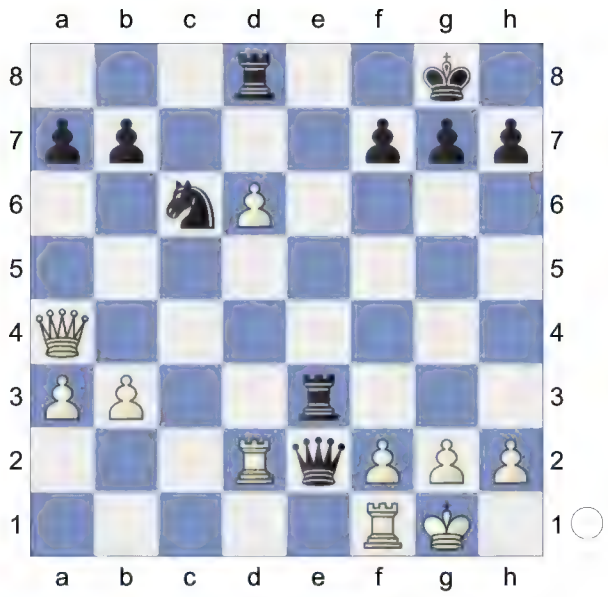


21.Qxe4 Bxb3 2.20/22
[⌓21...Rfe8 1.66/20]
22.cxb3+- Qxe2 23.Rad1 d6-d7 would now be deadly. **23...Rfe8 24.Qa4 Re6**

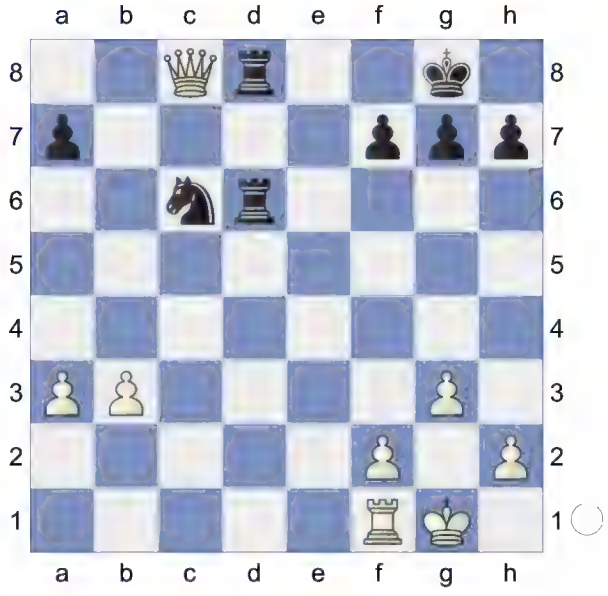


25.Rd2
[But not 25.Bxa7 Rdxd6 26.Rxd6 Rxd6±]
25...Rxe3 3.30/24
[25...Qh5 1.99/23 was called for. 26.Bf4 *(26.Bxa7 Rexd6 27.Rxd6 Rxd6±)* 26...Qf5]

(Diagram)

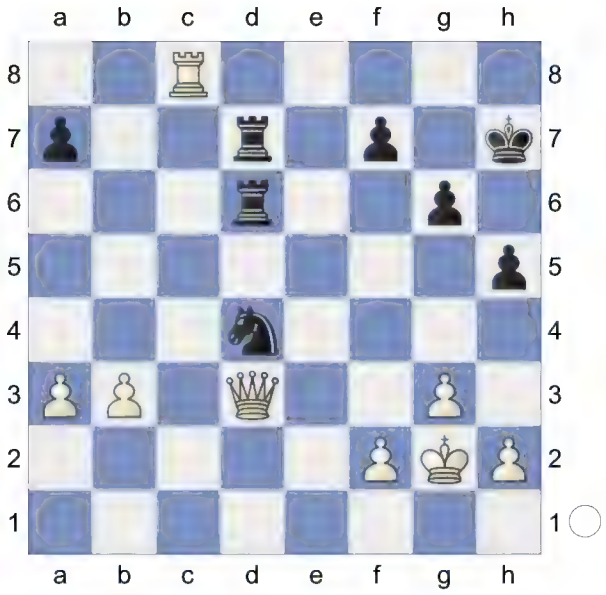


26.Rxe2 Rxe2 27.Qb5 Rd2 28.Qxb7 R2xd6 29.g3 Black must now prevent Rf1-c1. **29...R8d7 30.Qc8+ Rd8**

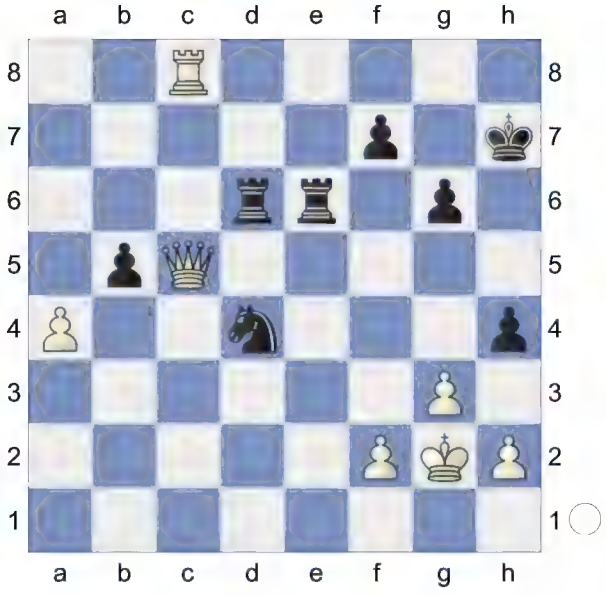


31.Qa6 Rf1-c1 is the strong threat.
31...h5 32.Kg2 R8d7 33.Rc1 Nd4 34.Rc8+ Kh7 35.Qd3+ g6

(Diagram)

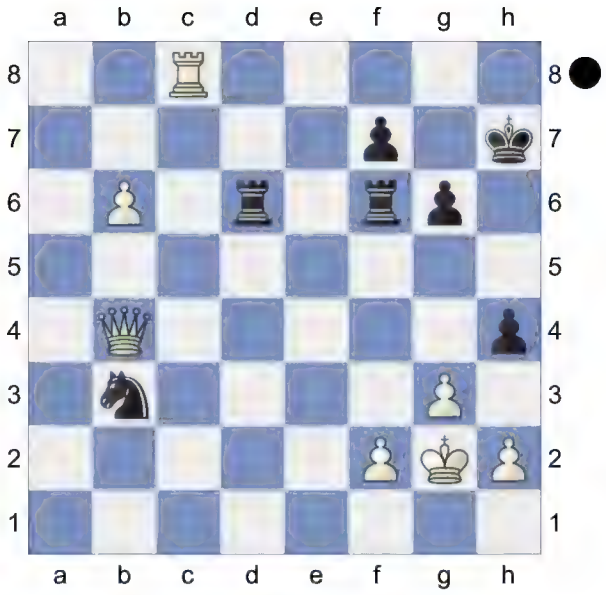


36.Qc3 Re6 5.60/23
[⌓36...Kg7 3.85/21 37.Rc7 Rd5 38.Rxd7 Rxd7]
37.a4 White is clearly winning. **37...a6 38.b4 h4 39.Qc5 Rdd6 40.b5 axb5**



41.axb5 Rf6 42.b6 Nb3 43.Qb4

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.33
1-0

72 **C01**
□ **Onischuk,V** **2614**
■ **Mischuk,D** **2349**
Nebesna sotnya Mem Rapid (11.2)
[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

Another rapid event and another time Onischuk beat someone who isn't a GM in this opening. Yes, those maybe don't feel as awesome because the player is not only 300 points down on Onischuk but also a full title down. This game overall isn't the most spectacular one to be honest, but it's still instructive and that's what's important.
C01: French: Exchange Variation
Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent. **1.e4**

e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nc6?! And what's also important is to explain why this is one of the dumbest moves you can do in this position. We've already seen the Main Line with c5 a few times in this study. This just prevents you from playing c5. Now you might say that we've seen this move in the game against Nazar Firman, but no we didn't. There isn't a bishop on d3 and there won't be because this bishop is droping to f3 after Nf6. Overall this move doesn't make any sense at all, it stops you from playing c5 and it's the wrong developing move.

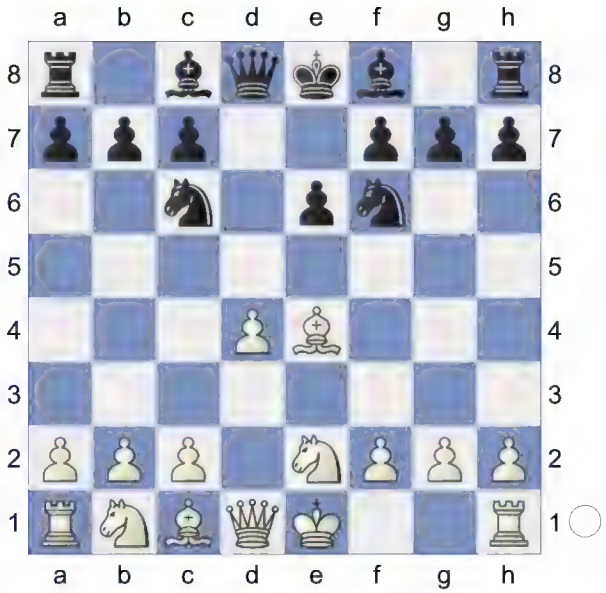
[4...Nf6 5.Bf3 c5 6.Ne2 Be7 7.Nbc3 *(7.Be3 0-0 8.dxc5 Qc7 9.0-0 Rd8 10.Qc1 Bxc5 11.Nbc3 Na6 12.a3 Bd7 13.Ng3 Bd6 14.Rd1 Be5 15.Bd4 Nc5 16.Qe3 Bxd4 17.Rxd4 Rac8 18.Rad1 b6 19.h3 Be8 20.Qd2 Rxd4 21.Qxd4 h6* ½-½ (83) Nguyen,M (2052)-Esipenko,A (2695) Titled Tuesday intern op 04th Feb Early blitz 2025 (3)*)* 7...0-0 8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 f5 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4)]

5.Ne2

[5.c3 You can play c3 here, but Ne2 overall is more flexible as your other knight still can go to c3 if you decide you want it there as we'll see in the game. Also, c5 isn't possible so this doesn't really make sense in the long run.]

5...Nf6

(Diagram)



6.Bf3 Bd6N

[6...e5 7.Bxc6+ bxc6 8.0-0 Bd6 9.dxe5 Bxe5 10.Qxd8+ Kxd8 11.Rd1+ Bd7 12.Nbc3 Rb8 13.b3 Kc8 14.Bf4 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-5...Nc6]

7.Nbc3 The reason why Onischuk can do this now is because there is simply no c5 or Qb6, so c3 isn't a necessary move. On the other hand, now this knight might be able to go to b5 and harass black's DSB which black doesn't want to give up as his other LSB known as the French Bishop is very passive. **7...Bd7 8.Bg5!?** Now this might simply look just like a developing move, but Onischuk is saying with this that he might castle long instead of short castling as he is 300 rating points and a title up on his opponent. The position is equal. **8...h6 9.Bh4** Computer doesn't like this move, I think that the computer is just a stupid machine that shouldn't have the right of speech. It's pretty natural and it doesn't put white into a worse position, allthough I get why the computer doesn't like it.

[9.Bxf6 Computer wants to play this as now black has to make a decision. You either damage your structure and

try to prove it's ok on the g-file with the rook or you take with the queen. Qxf6 If this, it's very simple. *(9...gxf6* This wouldn't've happened in the game ever, but I'mma show this funny line anyways. *10.0-0* Yes, computer wants white to castle short into the Rg8 situation and I find it hillarious. What computer is saying is that after *f5 11.Nb5! Bf8 12.Re1 Bg7 13.c3* white is better because he has a strong attack brewing on the queen side. King cannot stay in the center as there is d5 available so what black has to do is castle short. *0-0 14.Ng3±* Here the following idea is Nh5 to harass the bishop even more. Black's LSB is completely dead and black's DSB is also pretty dead. So even though black has a bishop pair and white doesn't, black's bishop pair is currently as useful as a house without a roof. *)* 10.Ne4! Qe7 Here white doesn't actually take and apparently white is supposed to castle short. 11.0-0 e5 12.Re1! Preparing the gun on the king 0-0 and only now when white has the gun in the center, white should play 13.Nxd6 and the reason is that now after something like cxd6 14.Qd2± white's gonan bring the other rook and will try to pressure black's weaker center.]

9...g5 10.Bg3 g4?!

[10...Bxg3 I think it's better to take and after 11.hxg3 Qe7= and castle long. The way black did it I feel like g pawn is pushed a bit too much in the position.]

(Diagram)

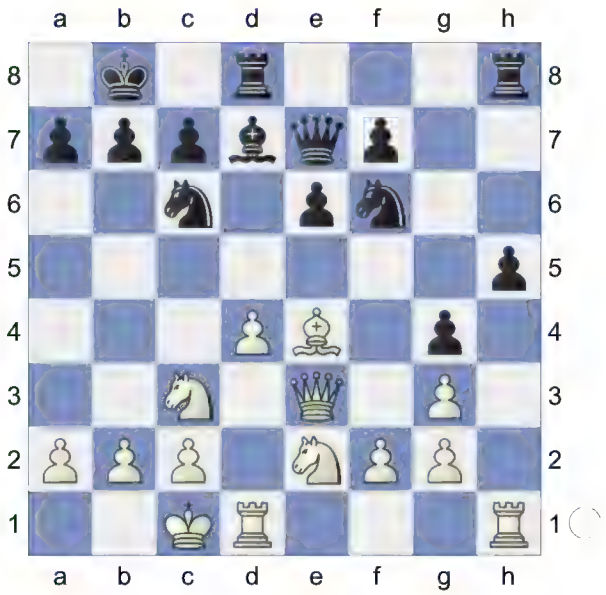
Personally I don't like this move as much as engine dislikes it. **11.Be4 Bxg3 12.hxg3**

[12.Nxg3 Nxe4 13.Ngxe4 f5]

12...Qe7 13.Qd2 0-0-0 14.0-0-0

[14.Rxh6 Nxe4 15.Nxe4 Rxh6 16.Qxh6 Qb4+ 17.Qd2 Qxb2∓]

14...h5 Black tries to justify g4 with this. It makes sense, now black does have a bit more space. The drawback is that now Nf4 is possible, which is why g4 isn't a really good move. **15.Qe3 Kb8**



16.Nf4 Be8?? 1.38/23 And this is where

Dmitry blundered. The thing is that Dmitry completely missed that the whole set-up white has is here for Onischuk to play d5.

[16...Na5 What Dmitry should've done is move his knight away this way. Now d5 doesn't hit the knight and it's not as powerfull as he has Nc4.

A) 17.d5? -0.31/21 17.Be4-d3 0.46 Here this would've been a blunder as there is Nc4 18.Qd4 Nb6∓ 0.27/20 and all of a sudden, white's position isn't so good anymore and this move feels very weak. *(⌓18...e5 -0.11/19 19.Qxc4 exf4)*;

B) 17.Bd3 Best move for white is to retreat the bishop and look for Nd5 as the pawn is pinned to the queen. Also, this stops Nc4. 17...a6 18.Ncd5 Nxd5 19.Nxd5 Qd6 20.Nf4± Here white is a bit better as black's knight is a bit off side, but black is very close to equalizing.]

[16...Rde8 Another option for black would've been this, where after 17.d5 Nd8 trying to take on e6 with a knight. I don't like it though as after 18.dxe6 you cannot really take with the knight since there'll be Ncd5. Bxe6± It's very hard here to put the knight back into the game, so even though it's only +0.5 due to the engine, I think white has better practical chances in the game.]

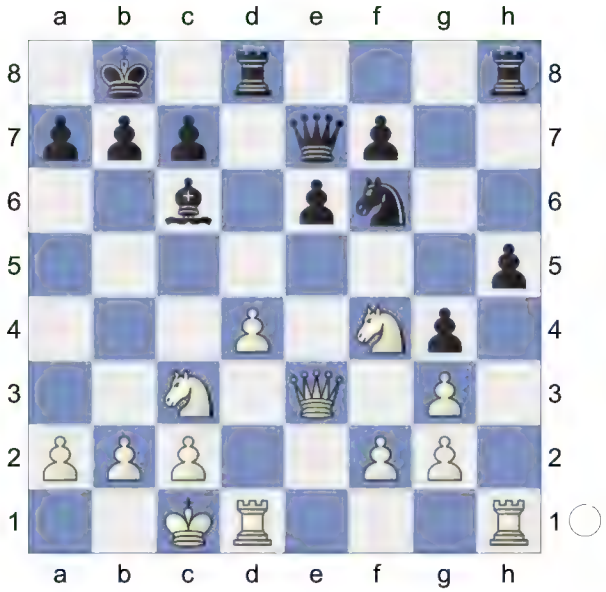
[16...Rde8= 0.27/21 remains equal.]

17.Bxc6±

[17.d5 0.97/20 17.Be4xc6 1.40 You can play this immediately of course where after exd5 18.Ncxd5 Nxd5 19.Nxd5 Qe6 20.Qc3± white is better, but it feels stronger when you get rid of the knight on c6.]

17...Bxc6

[17...bxc6? 1.72/20 17...Be8xc6 1.28 Taking like this might look good, but the problem is that even though you stopped d5, you are letting the burglar into your home and asking him not to take your stuff. That's not happenin' 18.Na4 Nd5 19.Nxd5 cxd5 20.Nc5+- Nc5 disconnects the queen from the defense of the king on the diagonal and now this king is extremely vulnerable.]



18.d5! This is why taking on c6 feels stronger. d5 cannot be taken as the pawn is pinned to the queen and if the pawn ever moves from the file, that queen falls down and black resigns.

18...Be8

[18...Bd7 You might consider this move instead of Be8 because of problems that I'll show, but the move 19.Qe5 is still the best move. No, it doesn't pin the knight anymore, but the point is completely different. Now after something like. Black must now prevent d5-d6. Rc8 20.Rhe1 Rh6 21.dxe6 fxe6 22.Nxe6 Qe5-f4 would

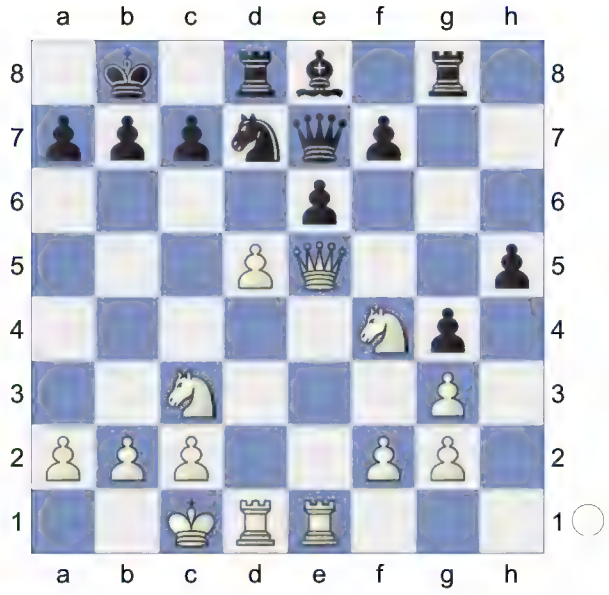
now be deadly. Bxe6 23.Qxe6 black is in trouble. And no, black cannot take the queen as after Qxe6? 2.05/21 *(23...Qf8±* 1.47/19 keeps fighting. *24.Qf5 Rh8)* 24.Rxe6+- this is an even bigger problem. The move. aiming for Nc3-e4. Rch8? 6.12/21 might look like it solves the problem, but after *(24...Rf8* 1.66/21 *25.Nd5 a5)* 25.Ne4+- Nxe4 26.Rxh6+- black cannot take back due to back rank problems.]

19.Qe5 With Be8 black made this pin of the knight to the rook possible as well. Also, now h5 is under pressure and black's position is falling appart. **19...Rg8** **20.Rhe1?** 0.85/21 This is a mistake though. Onischuk is still better, but this is a bit too slow. It still wins a pawn though so I guess it's fine considering it is a rapid game.

[20.dxe6! Instead Onischuk should've played energetically and not be scared of the rook trade that he gives to black as that doesn't help black at all. In fact, it benefits white because that way white'll get the open file for himels. Rxd1+ 21.Rxd1 Bc6! This is the only move that doesn't lose immediately. The reason is that now black doesn't have back rank problems anymore. *(21...fxe6??* 12.65/24 21...Be8-c6 1.62 Taking, allthough natural, is completely losing because of *22.Qc5!+-* which black cannot take as he has back rank problems. He has to give up the queen for the rook in order to not get mated immediately.*)* 22.Re1 this would prepare a rocket launcher on the e file. fxe6 23.Qxe6 Qf8 24.Qe7 White is simply better here as now, black's pushed h5 pawn and g4 pawn benefit white as they're currently targets. Also, f6 knight is badly placed, so it'll also be target for white's rook. The queen trade is unavoidable here so black cannot save the queen. If he tries to with Qh6 2.55/23 that's losing after *(24...a6±* 1.08/19 *25.b3 Qxe7 26.Rxe7 Rf8)* 25.Re6± and this pin of the knight to the king does nothing as the king can just move and black is now under even more pressure then he would've been if he had traded the queens.]

[Better is 20.dxe6 1.48/23 Rxd1+ 21.Rxd1]

20...Nd7



21.Qxh5 e5! Very important! Everything else is completely losing as the two rooks in the center are extremely powerful and this way Dmitry is keeping the e-file, on which his queen is, closed, as well as the d-file for now until white plays d6. **22.Qh7 Qf8** Only move, you have to get of the e-file just in case.

[22...Qg5? This is the move you might say is also good because it gets the queen of the e-file and attacks the knight while protecting the rook. It

would've been true except for the move 23.Ne4! forcing the queen to g7. Inhibits Nd7-f6. Qg7 24.Qxg7! Rxg7 and then a sacrifice with 25.Ne6!! fxe6 26.dxe6+- and here black can resign as he just has too many weaknesses.]

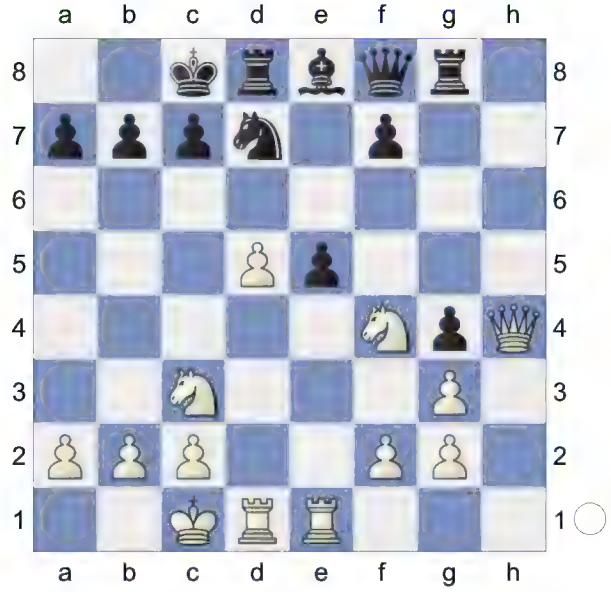
[22...Rf8? 2.81/22 22...Qe7-f8 1.00 This is wrong for a very simple reason. 23.Nd3 1.63/19 And now even though black can just move the queen, e.g. *(⌓23.Qg7! 2.81/22 Qd6 24.Ne6 fxe6 25.dxe6 Qxe6 26.Qxf8 Pin)* 23...Qd6+- 24.Qf5 f6 protecting e5 25.Qxg4± and white is simply up 2 pawns and is much better.]

23.Qh4 0.78/23 White has more active pieces.

[⌓23.d6! 1.22/23 cxd6 *(23...exf4?* too greedy. *24.dxc7+ Kxc7 25.Nb5+ Kb8 26.Qe4+-)* 24.Qh4]

23...Rc8 Only move.

[23...Kc8?? 3.75/22 23...Rd8-c8 0.85

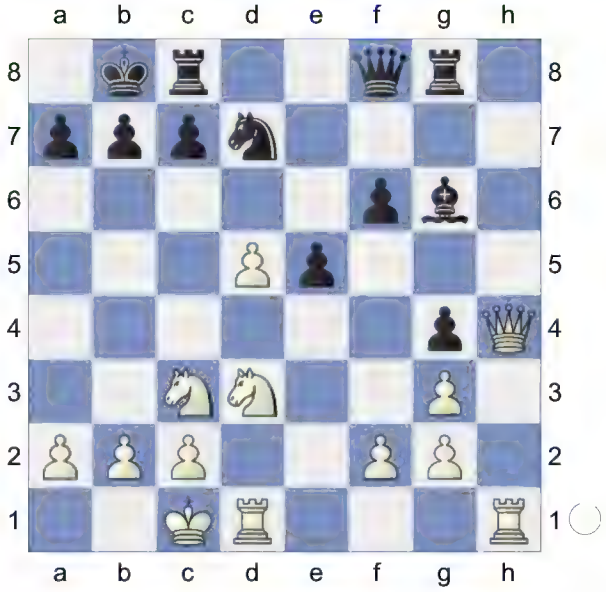


This might look logical, but it's wrong for the same sacrifice as in the line 22...Qg5? 24.Ne6! which in this case threatens mate this time. fxe6 25.dxe6 Here black can resign.]

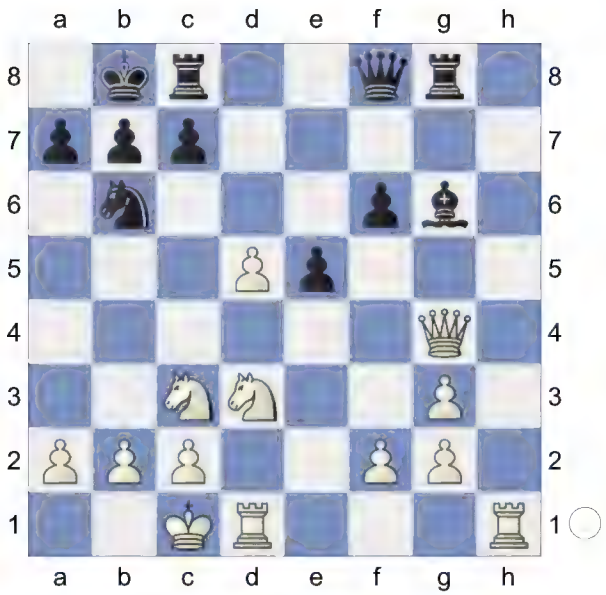
24.Nd3↑ Because of the earlier mistake, black still has a chance to save the game with precise play, but this is a lot of pressure for a rapid game and Onischuk will break Dmitry mentally for sure as he in the end did. White fights for an advantage. **24...f6 25.Rh1 Bg6??** 1.15/18

[25...Nb6 Black can of course still fight with this, but it still isn't easy as there is 26.f4 with even more pressure on black's pawns, forcing the already forced move gxf3 27.gxf3 Bg6± allthough now this Bg6 idea works as there is no pawn for black to blunder on g4. So while Onischuk was a bit too slow earlier, Dmitry was a bit to fast and rushed it too much, leading to his loss. White isn't even that much better according to Stockfish and has to find Nf2-Kb1-b3 in order to maintain his advantage.]

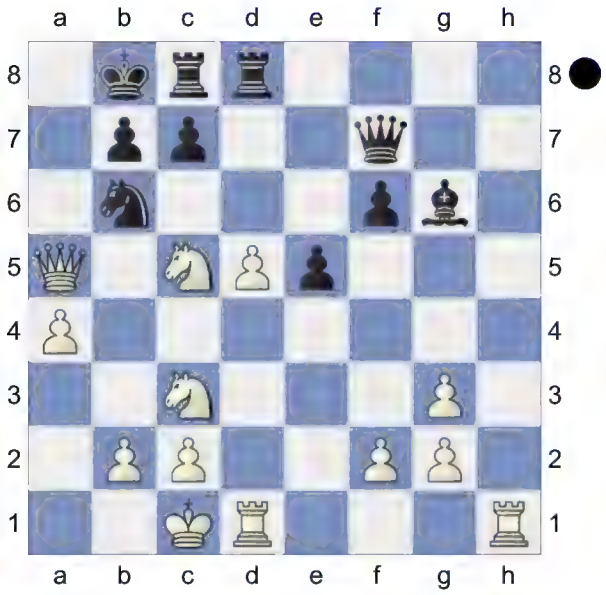
[25...Qd6± 0.54/20]



Here we are, blundering the g4 pawn. **26.Qxg4 Nb6**



27.Qb4! Qf7 2.95/19
[Avoid the trap 27...Bxd3? 28.Qxf8 Rgxf8 29.Rxd3+- *(29.cxd3 Rcd8+-)*]
[⌓27...Qxb4 1.63/20 28.Nxb4 Rcd8]
28.Nc5+- And now white is just inside the position. **28...Rgd8** 4.22/20
[⌓28...Bh5 2.66/19 29.f3 Ka8]
29.a4 a5 is incoming and the only way to stop is to sacrifice the pawn. **29...a5**
30.Qxa5



But that does mean that white will have 3 pawns more then black which is obviously good for white, making Dmitry resign the game. You can notice that the c7 pawn hasn't moved, all because on the 4th move of the game Dmitry played the dubious Nc6.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.26 (precise)
1-0

73 **C01**
□ **Onischuk,V** **2629**
■ **Razin,Vadim** **2341**
Nebesna sotnya Mem Blitz (21.3)
[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

FIDE isn't doing it's job properly, for some reason Vadim doesn't have a title. We're in 2015, a year later. Onischuk got beat up by Teamour Radjabov and took 2 draws since the last game we saw. But you know what they say, if you fall you gotta get up. On the other side is a guy who in 2022 peaked at 2434 and I have no idea how he isn't titled as an FM, like, FIDE, do your damn job.
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4
We see this line again. **4.Bxe4 Nf6**
But this time we see someone who studied this opening a bit and we're here.
5.Bf3 c5

(Diagram)

6.Ne2 Nc6

[6...Be7 This is a possible move to get away from the main line. Onischuk faced this in 2014 actually against Ferenc Berkes and that game was a draw. In that game after 7.Nbc3 0-0 8.Be3 Qc7 9.0-0 we got into this position which is actually a bit better for black after Berkes's move Rd8 and now even though white has 10.Nb5 Qa5= and the position is equal with white's only move for equality being c4. Everything else gives the advantage to black as black is ready to play a6 and Nc6 or cxd4.]

7.Be3 Nd5?! I'm not a lover this move nor is theory nowadays. What you do have to understand is that this is a blitz game, it's a blitz tournament and this felt natural to get rid of the bishop on e3.

[7...cxd4 This is the main line move, we'll see this later in the study.]

8.Bxd5 Qxd5 The position is equal.

9.Nbc3! But the reason it's not good is this move. Qxg2 might look strong, but it's not and white gets a lot of play for 2 pawns. **9...Qxg2 10.Rg1 Qxh2**

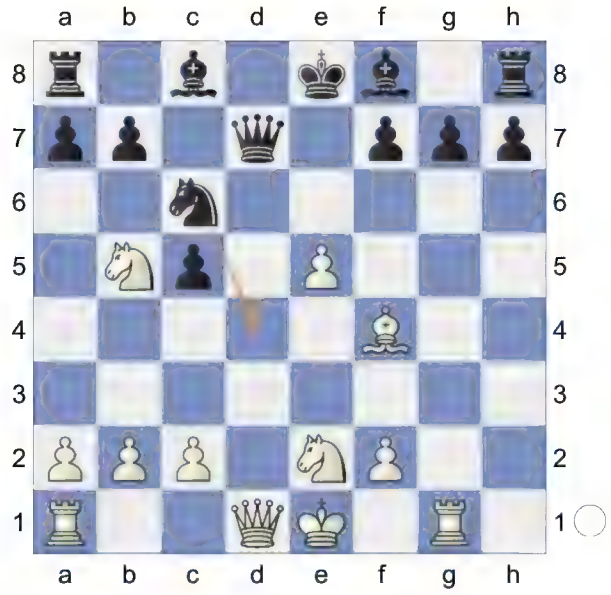
[10...Qf3 11.Nb5 Rb8 12.dxc5 Bd7 *(12...f6 13.Nd6+ Bxd6 14.Qxd6 g6 15.Rd1 Rf8 16.Nd4 Qd5 17.Qxd5 exd5 18.Bf4 Nxd4 19.Rxd4 Ra8 20.Rxd5 Be6 21.Rd6 Kf7 22.Kd2 g5 23.Be3 Rfd8 24.Rxd8 Rxd8+ 25.Kc3 Rd7 26.a4 h5 27.b4* 1-0 (39) Kovalev,V (2641)-Tabatabaei,M (2577) Aeroflot Open A 2018 (8.1)*)* 13.Nc7+ Kd8 14.Nb5 Ne5 15.Qd4 Qd5 16.0-0-0 Qxd4 17.Bxd4 Nf3 18.Bxg7 Nxg1 19.Bxh8 Nxe2+ 20.Kb1 Bxc5 21.Bf6+ Kc8 22.Nd6+ Bxd6 23.Rxd6 Nf4 24.Rd4 Ng6 25.h4 0-1 (54) Hantel,T (2744)-Deslandes,P (2800) CLA-007 VCC 2002 (3)]

11.Bf4! Qh3 12.Nb5 We now see why 2 pawns don't matter. The only move is f6. Everything else losses the game and Razin blundered. **12...e5N** 2.32/20 Logical thing is to give a pawn back in order to get back and be safe.

[12...f6 13.Nc7+ Kf7 14.Nxa8 cxd4 15.Nxd4 *(15.Nc7 Bb4+ 16.Bd2 Ne5 17.Ng3 Bxd2+ 18.Kxd2 Qh6+ 19.Ke2 Bd7 20.Qxd4 Rc8 21.f4 Qh2+ 22.Kd1 Rxc7 23.fxe5 Bb5*

24.Ke1 Rxc2 25.Qe3 Qh4 26.Rd1 Re2+ 27.Qxe2 Bxe2 28.Kxe2 f5 29.Rd7+ Kf8 (34) 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-7...Nd5 #6 *)* 15...Bb4+ 16.c3 Bxc3+ 17.bxc3 Qxc3+ 18.Bd2 Qxd4 19.Be3 Qe5 20.Rc1 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-7...Nd5 #6]

13.dxe5+- Qd7



Prevents Nb5-c7+ **14.e6!** But as you can see there is now e6. Decoy **14...fxe6**

[14...Qxd1+ 15.Rxd1]

15.Nc7+ Kf7

16.Nxa8 e5 17.Be3?! Pretty inaccurate

[17.Qxd7+ Bxd7 18.0-0-0 Bf5 19.Bh2± This would've been much better since now white has a target. This isolated e5 pawn is a huge weakness for black.]

17...Nd4 18.Nxd4 You have to give up the bishop for the knight here to not get tempoed.

[18.Bxd4 cxd4 2.29/17 *(18...exd4±* 1.41/20 *19.Qd2 h5)* 19.Qd3±]

18...cxd4

[18...exd4?? 2.51/21 18...c5xd4 1.19 Taking like this would've been a huge blunder as now there is 19.Qf3+! and after Kg8 20.Bf4± the knight is gonna get out and black is not developed enough to defend himself.]

19.Qh5+ Kg8?? 4.35/24 And then Vadim blundered right back after being able to get an equal position.

[19...g6! This is the only move that would equalize. Don't know what Vadim missed as after 20.Qxe5 dxe3 21.fxe3 *(21.Qxh8??* -#2/6 21.f2xe3 0.01 This leads to a mate. *Qd2+ 22.Kf1 Qxf2#)* 21...Bb4+! 22.c3 Rd8 white has only 1 move not to lose immediately. 23.Qh2 Dodges Qd7-d2+ *(23.cxb4??* -#4/10 23.Qe5-h2 0.13 This leads to mate in 4. *Qd2+ 24.Kf1 Bh3+ 25.Rg2 Qxg2+ 26.Ke1 Qf1#)* 23...Qd3 24.Qxh7+ Kf6! Only move. This is a very forcing variation as you can see. *(24...Kf8??* 2.59/21 24...Kf7-f6 0.73 This would be losing after *25.Qh6+ Kf7* ...Bc8-f5! would now be deadly. *26.cxb4+-* And the queen covers h3.*; 24...Ke6??* This losses to *25.Rxg6++-* and black will get mated soon.*; 24...Ke8??* This losses to *25.Nc7+ Kf8 26.Rf1+ Bf5 27.Ne6+ Ke8 28.Qh8+ Ke7 29.Qxd8+ Qxd8*

30.Nxd8 Kxd8 31.cxb4+- and white has 2 rooks against 1 black's bishop and has a pawn more. Black of course can resign here.*)* 25.Qxg6+ Qxg6 26.Rxg6+ Kxg6 27.cxb4 Rh8= Even though white is up 2 pawns, are those really advantages considering that 1 of them is a doubled pawn and the other is an isolated pawn that's not even close to promoting? No advantage for white here.]

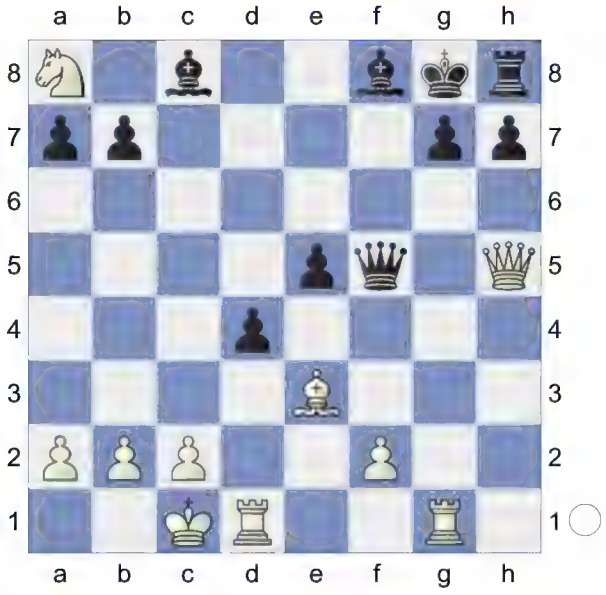
[19...g6± 1.52/23 keeps fighting. 20.Qxe5 *(20.Qf3+ Qf5=)* 20...dxe3 21.fxe3 Qe7 22.Qxe7+ *(22.Qxh8 Qxe3+ 23.Kf1 Bh3+ 24.Rg2 Qf4+ 25.Ke2 Qe4+ 26.Kd1 Qxg2-+)* 22...Bxe7]

20.0-0-0? 2.15/22 A fine move, but there was something much stronger so I'll mark this as a mistake.

[20.Bh6± And now black is in a lot of trouble.]

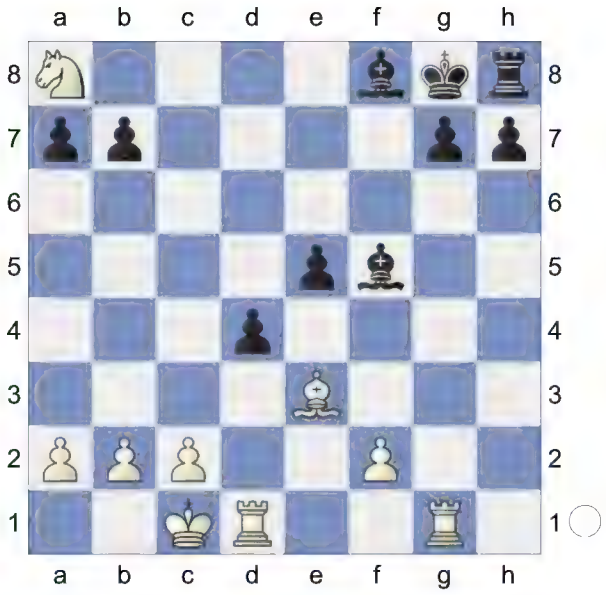
[⌓20.Bh6 4.35/24 Qf5 21.Qe8]

20...Qf5



21.Qxf5 Bxf5

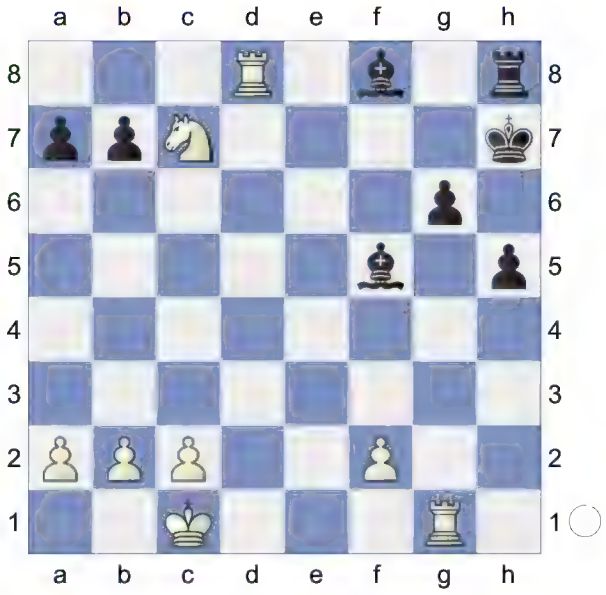
(Diagram)



22.Bxd4 0.92/20 That was unnecessary. White is still better, but there was no reason to do this. **22...exd4± 23.Rxd4**

[Don't play 23.Nc7 d3=]

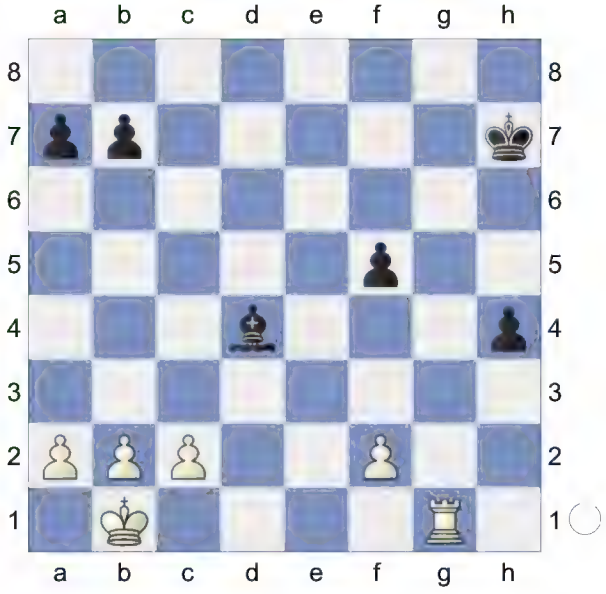
23...h5 24.Nc7 Kh7 ...Rd4-d3 is the strong threat. **25.Rd8 g6**



26.Kb1?? -0.15/22 Now white is in a worse position. I'm not kidding, white is straight up worse after Bc5.

[26.Kd1! This was the only winning move. White has to be active with his king and after Bg7 27.Rxh8+ Kxh8 28.c3 Be5 29.Nd5± white again

simply has a rook for the bishop with black having no compensation.]
[26.Kd1!± 0.63/22]
26...Bg7? 0.71/20 Vadim missed his chances though.
[26...Bc5! This is much better as after 27.Rxh8+ -0.62/22 *(27.Rd2= -0.09/22)* 27...Kxh8∓ This pawn is hanging forcing white to play passive with 28.Rf1 g5∓ -0.13/23 and now all of a sudden black gets the compensation for the exchange as these pawns now become very strong. *(28...h4∓ -0.56/22* might be stronger. *29.f3 h3)*]
[26...Bc5= -0.15/22 27.Rd2 h4]
27.Rxh8+ -0.14/25
[White should try 27.Ne8!± 0.71/20]
27...Bxh8 Endgame. KRN-KB **28.Nd5 h4??** 1.65/24 Here sadly Vadim blundered again. This losses to Ne7.
[28...Bd4 Vadim really had to play this move to try and prove he has compensation for the exchange. 29.Ne3 Threatens to win with Ne3xf5. Bxe3 Yes, black can do this. 30.fxe3 Kh6 *(30...Be4!? 31.Rd1□ g5∓)* 31.Kc1! Be4 Here white's past pawn is not going anywhere and white cannot make any progress while in the same time he has to fight against black's 2 protected past pawns. The only drawing move for white here is. And now ...g6-g5 would win.
A) 32.Rf1?? -0.90/25 32.Kc1-d2 0.01 If this for example, then after Kg5! aiming for ...h5-h4. 33.Rf4 -1.36/24 *(⌓33.Kd1 -0.98/24 h4 34.Ke2)* 33...Bc6!-+ black cannot be harassed and white simply cannot stop the two protected past pawns and will lose the pawn race if you count the number of squares to the promotion.;
B) 32.Kd2! g5 White must now prevent ...h5-h4. 33.Ke2! g4 34.Rf1 g3 35.Rf6+ -1.07/26 *(35.c4=* -0.01/22 *)* 35...Kg5∓ 36.Rf8 and black cannot push as white will be right on time. After h4! Strongly threatening ...Be4-d5! *(36...Bg2!? 37.Rg8+□ Kh4=)* 37.Rg8+= black has no way forward with the king and white has to keep this defensive wall or he will lose so that's why it is a draw, nobody can make any progress.]
[28...Bd4= -0.01/24]
29.Ne3?? -0.01/19 But Onischuk missed it.
[29.Ne7! This has 2 ideas. First, you are trying to get rid of black's LSB as it's very strong because the h pawns promotion square is light. The other idea is that you're attacking the g6 pawn so black has to stay where he is. So after Bd4 *(29...Be4?* 4.61/22 29...Kh7-h6 1.94 If this, black still losses to *30.Rg4!*+- being the only good move. *)* 30.Nxf5 gxf5



31.Rf1!+- the pawns aren't connected anymore and white can easily stop the

h pawn as it's promotion square isn't the same colour as black's bishop. If black here had a LSB, black would've been able to draw, but since he doesn't white can easily stop and get the h4 pawn and simply has a rook for a bishop in the endgame.]

[29.Ne7!+- 1.65/24]

29...Be6= **30.c3** Prevents Bh8-d4.

30...Be5

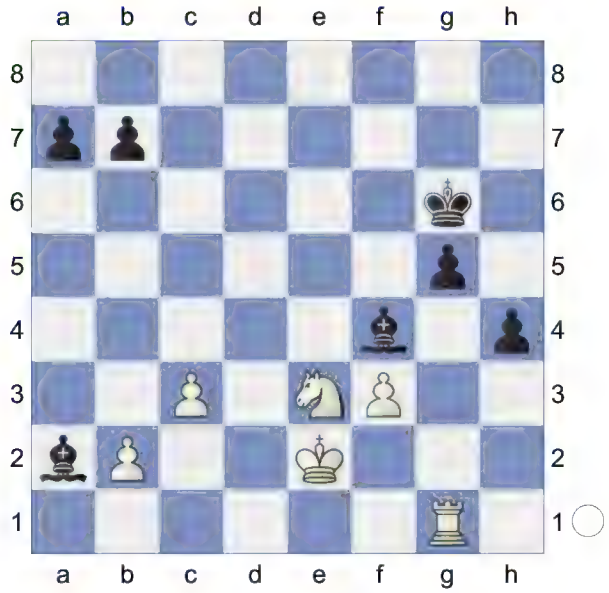
31.Ng4 **Bf4** **32.Kc2!** Only move, you have to come forward with the king.

32...Bf5+? This though is a mistake, you're just forcing white's king to d1 to which he was going anyways because he has to get to the king side. This pair of bishops is nice.

[32...g5!= This is the only correct move as it protects the h4 pawn and now white cannot try to attack it and therefore this is a draw.]

33.Kd1 **h3??** 1.86/24 And now this move is completely losing as you are trying to do this too quickly, you're not fast enough after f3. White now steadily converts the win.

[33...g5 Again, black must play this move, but now white is better as after 34.Ke2 0.01/24 *(34.f3± 0.40/22)* 34...Kg6 35.f3 Be6 36.Ne3 0.01/19 *(36.Rd1± 0.38/22 is more appropriate.)* 36...Bxa2 1.03/23 *(36...Kh5= 0.01/19)*



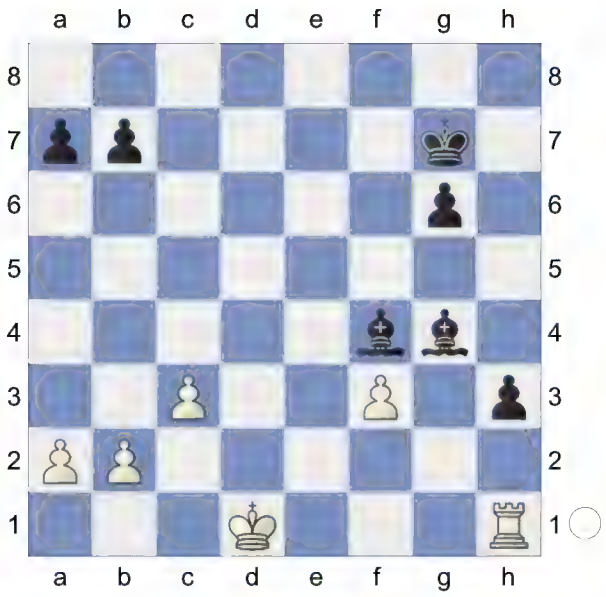
37.Ra1!+- white's king is on the position, black won't be able to make the progress needed to promote and white is just gonna break through the queen side and win.]

[Black should play 33...g5± 0.32/23]

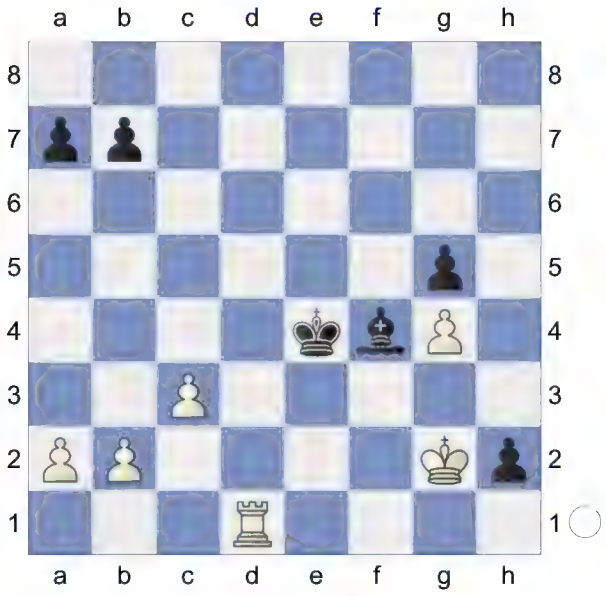
34.f3+- **Kg7** **35.Rh1** **Bxg4** 2.36/23

[⌓35...Be6 1.79/22 36.Rxh3 Bxa2]

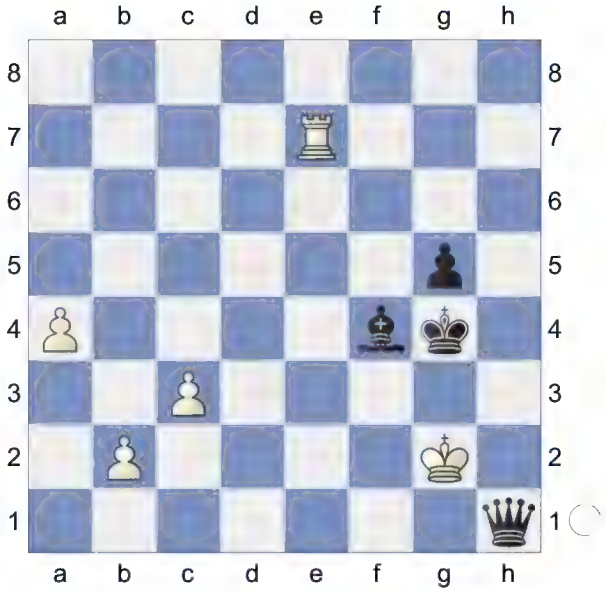
(Diagram)



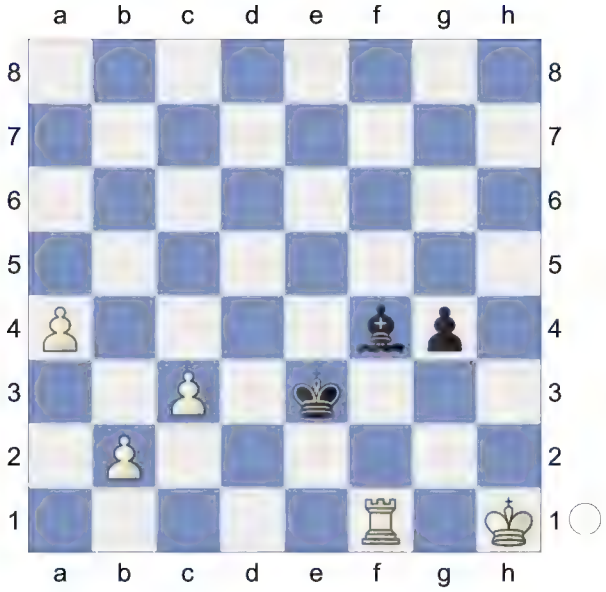
36.fxg4 KR-KB **36...h2** **37.Ke2** **Kf6** **38.Kf3** **g5** 3.76/26
[38...Kg5 1.80/22 39.a4 b6]
39.Kg2 **Ke5** **40.Rd1** The pawn cannot promote and black cannot get to the g4 pawn. **40...Ke4?** 6.14/26
[40...Ke6 3.62/24 41.a4 Bd6]



41.Rd7 **Be5** 8.01/25
[⌓41...Be3 4.95/23 42.Kxh2 *(42.Rxb7 Bg1+-)* 42...b6 43.Rxa7 Kd5]
42.Rxb7 **Kf4** And by the time black gets to it, black already lost all the queen side pawns. **43.Rxa7** **Kxg4** **44.Re7** **Bf4** **45.a4** **h1Q+**

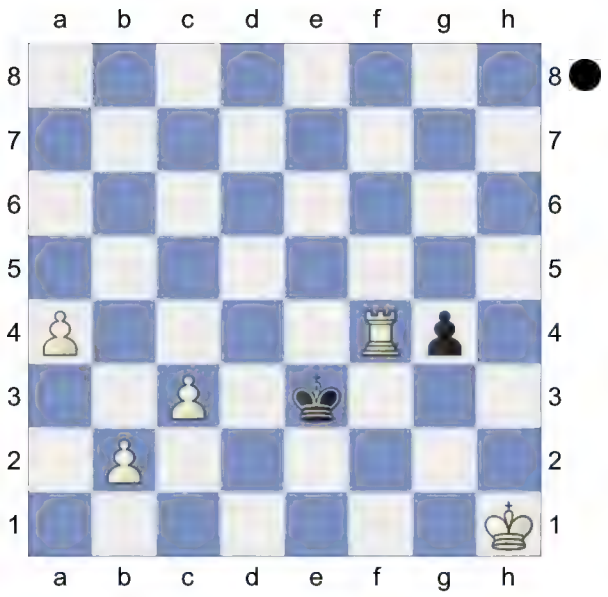


46.Kxh1 **Kf3** **47.Re1** Hoping for a4-a5.
47...g4 **48.Rf1+** **Ke3**



49.Rxf4!

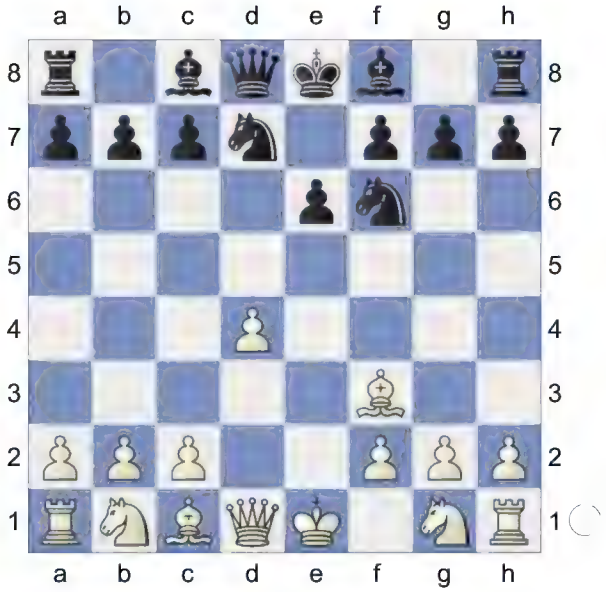
(Diagram)



And here Vadim resigned as he is never promoting this g pawn and white has 3 connected past pawns on the queen side. This game wasn't so clear, it really wasn't, but you have to understand this is a blitz game and mistakes will happen due to low time control. Despite that though, Onischuk still had 85% accuracy. One interesting thing is that 2 years later, these 2 guys will have a rematch and it will end in a draw in the Schlechter French, so Razin really did deserve the title he doesn't have yet.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/ Black=0.71
1-0

74 **C01**
□ **Van Foreest,Machteld** **2295**
■ **Harff,M** **2329**
HSG Open 2022 (5.2) 19.06.2022
[John Watson]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
Prathamesh,Sunil Mokal: 'Wang Hao described this as his best game of the tournament. Let us have a look...' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Nbd7**



6.Ne2 e5 Playing this before ...Bd6 has some advantages, particularly versus the Nd2-c4 idea. **7.Bg5N** A unique sequence. Two alternatives:

[a) 7.0-0 was played in Beerdsen-Rozentalis in the Archives. The point is

A) 7...Bd6 was played transposing to the play in this month's game Rivin-Sengupta. Note that White in that case can no longer use the idea 8.Nd2 *(8.Ng3 0-0 9.Nf5 Re8 10.Nxd6 cxd6 11.c3 e4 12.Be2 d5 13.Bf4 Nf8 14.h3 Ng6 15.Bh2 Nh4 16.Na3 a6 17.Nc2 h6 18.Ne3 Be6 19.Qb3 Qd7 20.Bg3 Nf5 21.Be5 Nh7 22.Rac1 Ng5* ½-½ (57) Castro Salguero,R (2474)-6.Nc6 bc6 7.e5 Nd5 8.Nd (2524) 50/127 Berlin 1990 (7)*)* 8...0-0 9.Nc4?? -1.79/20 due to *(9.d5= 0.00/18; 9.d5= -0.08/18* and White stays safe. *)* 9...e4;
B) 7...Bd6= 0.09/19;
C) 7...e4?! 0.54/19 8.Ng3!± exf3

9.Re1+ Be7 Strongly threatening ... 0-0. White must now prevent ...Nd7-f8. 10.Nf5±]

[b) 7.Nbc3 Bd6 8.Bg5 has had some success here, although Black seems to have good options, e.g., *(8.Be3 0-0 9.d5 Nb6 10.h3 Bf5 11.g4 e4 12.Bg2 Bg6 13.Bg5 Re8 14.0-0 h6 15.Bh4 Bh7 16.Re1 Bc5 17.Nd4 g5 18.Bg3 Nbxd5 19.Nb3 Bf8 20.Qd4 Nb4 21.Re2 c6 22.Be5 Qxd4* 0-1 (58) Onischuk,V (2612)-Wang,H (2707) Al Ain op 4th 2015 (4) *)*

A) or 8...h6 9.Bh4 0-0 10.0-0 Re8 , e.g., 11.Ne4 g5 12.Nxf6+ Nxf6 *(12...Qxf6!? 13.Bg3□ e4=)* 13.dxe5! Bxe5 14.Qxd8 Rxd8 15.Bg3 Re8∓;

B) 8...0-0 9.Qd2

B1) 9...exd4 10.Nxd4 Re8+ 11.Nde2 *(11.Be2 h6 12.Bh4* Tomczak,J (2588)-Jarmula,L (2463) Katowice 2017 *g5! 13.Bg3* Dodges Bd6-f4. Black must now prevent Bg3xd6. Prevents Bd6-f4. aiming for Bg3xd6. *Bb4!)* 11...h6 12.Bh4;

B2) 9...h6 10.Bxf6 *(10.Bh4!?)* 10...Nxf6 11.0-0-0 Re8 with at least equality and some prospects due to the bishop pair]

[7.g3 exd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5 9.Bg2 Bc5 10.c3 0-0 11.h3 c6 12.0-0 Re8 13.a4 a5 14.Na3 Nd5 15.Nac2 Bd7 16.Kh2 Qf6 17.Ne3 Nxe3 18.Bxe3 Nc4 19.Bc1 Bxd4 20.cxd4 Be6 21.b3 Nb6 0-1 (47) Sarrazin,C (1983)-Drasko,M (2451) Sautron op 13th 2013 (9)]

7...h6 8.dxe5? -0.58/22

[8.Bxf6 Qxf6 9.0-0 exd4 *(9...g6!?)* 10.Nxd4 Bc5 11.Re1+ Ne5 12.Nc3 Nc3-d5 would now be deadly. And now Nc3-d5 would win. 0-0 ...Bc5xd4 is the strong threat. Hoping for ...Bc5xd4. 13.Ne4 Nxf3+ 14.Nxf3 Qf5=]

[8.Bh4 e4 *(8...g5 9.dxe5! gxh4 10.exf6 Qxf6∓)* 9.Bg4! g5 10.Bxd7+ Bxd7 *(10...Qxd7!? 11.Bg3□ Bg7=)* 11.Bg3 Bg7∓]

[8.Bxf6= -0.17/20 deserves consideration. Nxf6 9.Nbc3]

[8.Bxf6= -0.12/21 should be considered. Nxf6 9.Nbc3]

8...hxg5∓ 9.exf6 Qxf6 Black has two bishops, the h-file, and ideas of ...Ne5 and ...Bc5. White has no real counterplay.

[9...Nxf6 simplifies 10.Qxd8+ Kxd8 11.Nd2 c6]

[9...Nxf6 simplifies 10.Qxd8+ Kxd8 11.Ng3 c6]

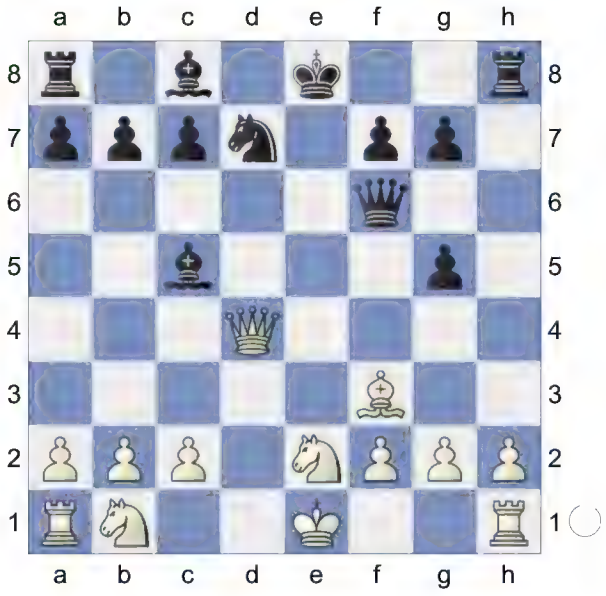
10.Qd4 -1.04/20

[Better is 10.Nbc3∓ -0.51/18]

[10.Nbc3∓ -0.61/19]

10...Bc5∓

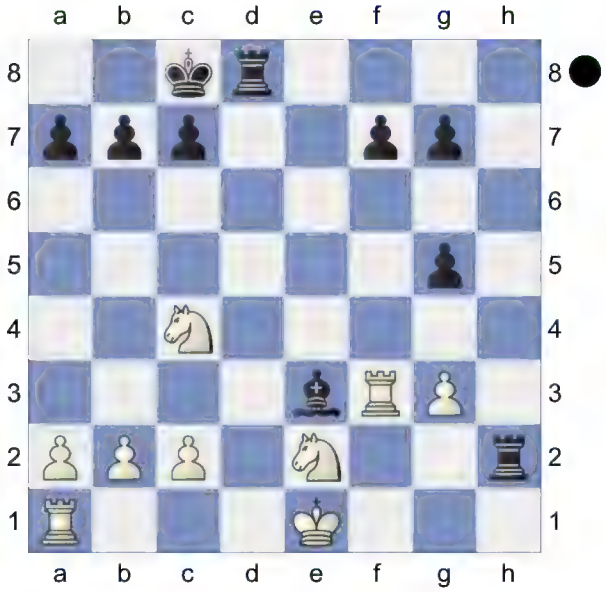
[10...Qxd4 11.Nxd4 Ne5∓]



11.Qxf6 Nxf6 12.g3? -2.54/21

[12.Ng3 Ng4 13.Bxg4 Bxg4 14.0-0

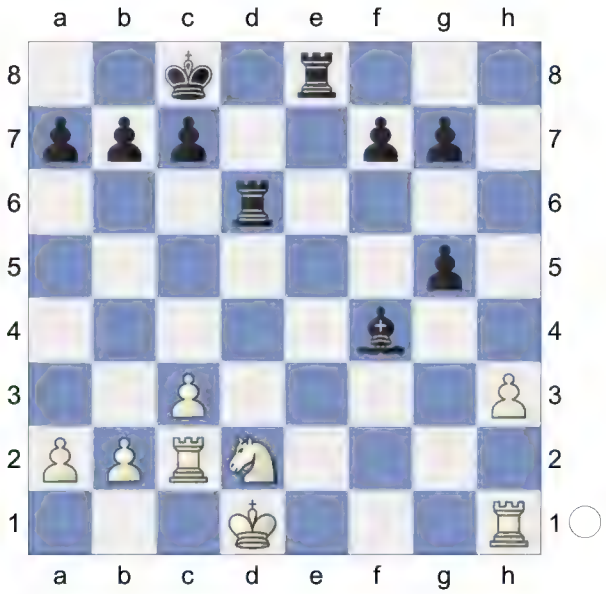
0-0-0∓]
[12.Nd2∓ -1.12/21]
[12.Nd2∓ -1.20/21]
12...Ng4-+ 13.Bxg4 Bxg4 14.Nd2 -3.97/22 Against Bg4-f3
[14.h4 -2.64/21 might work better.]
14...0-0-0 15.h3 -5.30/23 Black is clearly winning.
[⌓15.f3 -3.46/22 Be3 Deflection 16.Nc4 Bxf3 17.Rf1 Bxe2 *(17...Rxh2? -1.39/22 17...Bf3xe2 -4.37 18.Rxf3*



Bc5! Threatens to win with ...Rd8-e8. *19.Rf5∓)* 18.Kxe2]
15...Bxe2

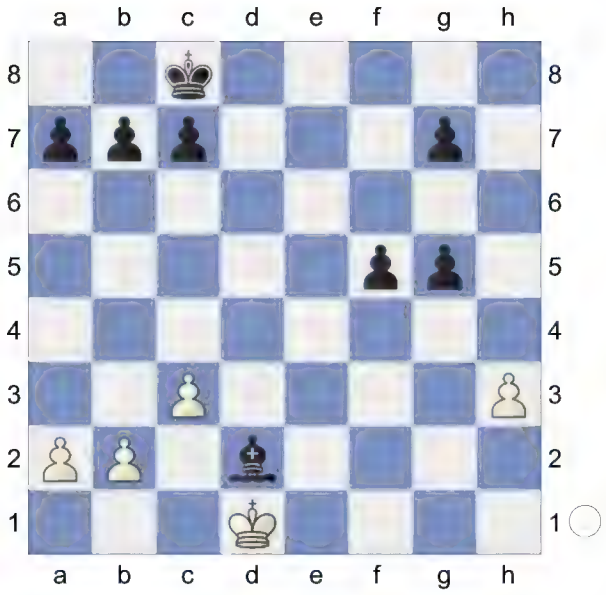
(Diagram)

Black is clearly winning. **16.Kxe2 Rhe8+** Deflection **17.Kd1 Bxf2** Black is already winning. **18.c3 Rd6 19.Rc1** -6.47/24
[⌓19.Rh2 -4.61/23 Re1+ *(19...Bxg3? 20.Re2-+)* 20.Kc2 Rxa1 21.Rxf2]
19...Bxg3 20.Rc2 Bf4

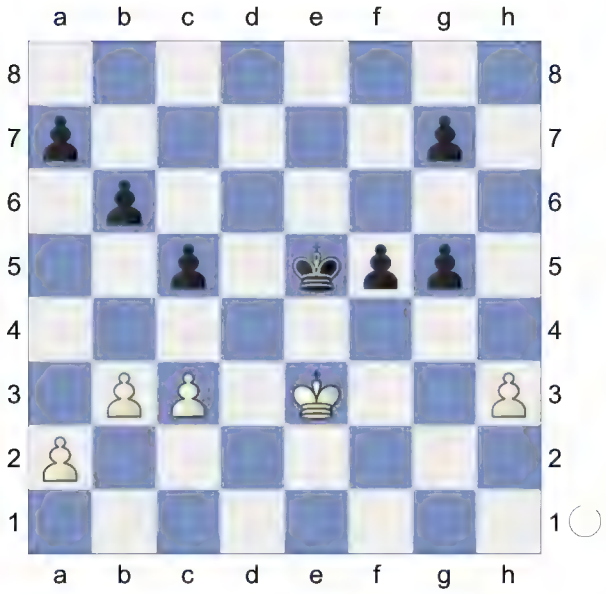


Hoping for ...Re8-d8. **21.Rf1 Red8 22.Rf2 f5 23.Re2 Rxd2+ 24.Rcxd2 Rxd2+ 25.Rxd2 Bxd2**

(Diagram)

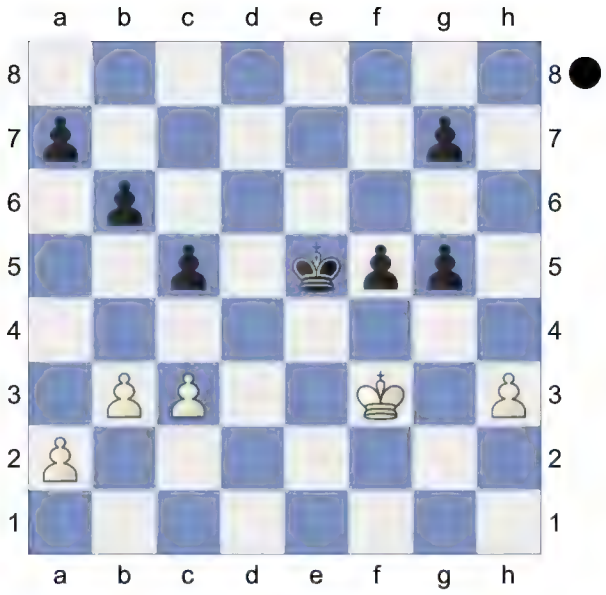


26.Kxd2 Endgame. KP-KP **26...Kd7** Strongly threatening ...Kd7-d6. **27.Ke3 Ke6 28.Kd4 b6** ...c7-c5+ would now be deadly. **29.b3 c5+ 30.Ke3 Ke5**

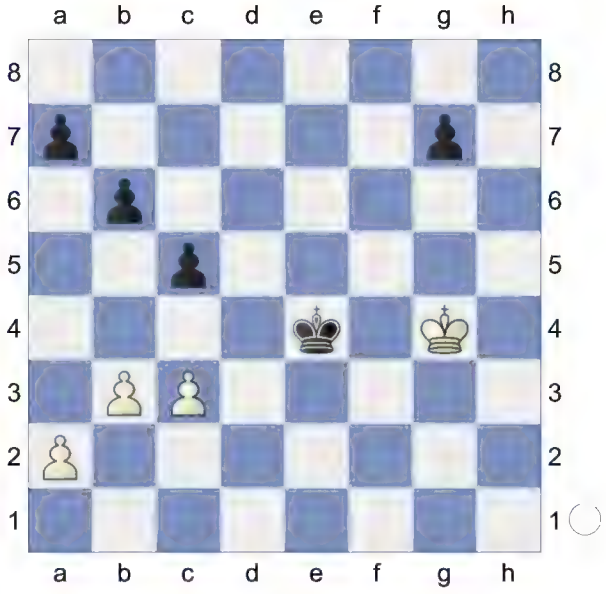


31.Kf3

(Diagram)



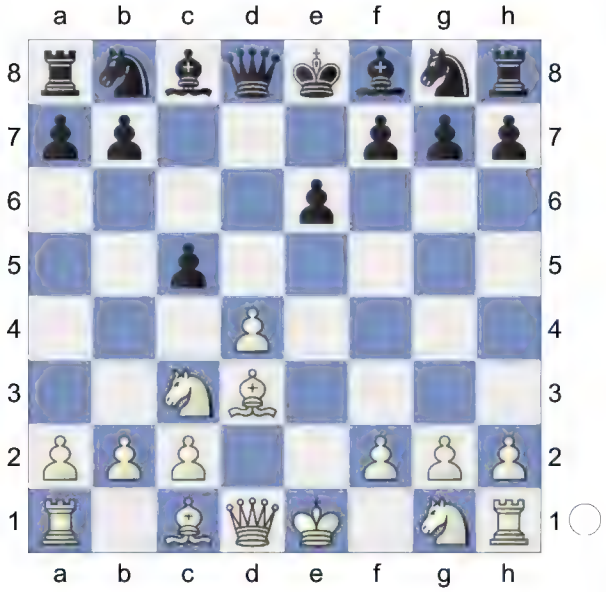
g4+! Deflection **32.hxg4N**
[32.Kg2 gxh3+]
32...fxg4+ 33.Kxg4 Ke4



Black took control after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.93/ Black=0.30. White did not feel at home in the position after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.66/ Black=0.12 (very precise)
0-1

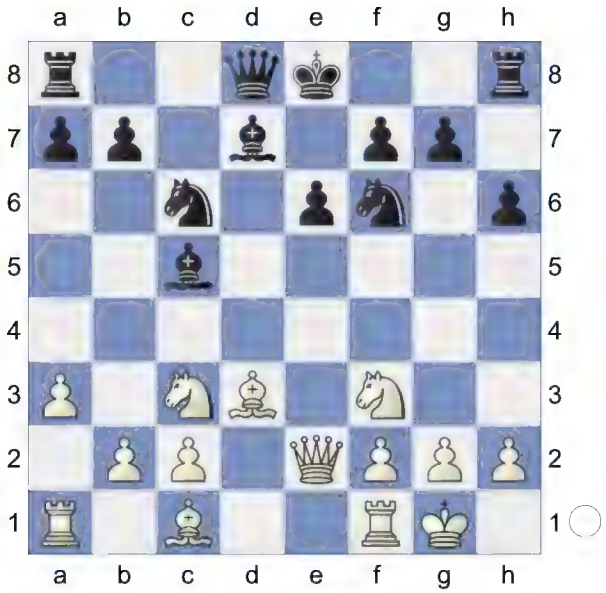
75 **C01**
□ **Cruzado Duenas,Carlos** **2572**
■ **Pheby,Ian M** **2311**
corr EU/TC10/final 01.06.2017
[Tactical Analysis 6.4]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.exd5 Qxd5 5.Nc3 Qd8



6.dxc5 Bxc5 7.Nf3 Nf6 8.0-0 White is slightly better. **8...Nc6**
[8...0-0 9.Bg5 Be7 10.Qe2 Nbd7 11.Rad1 a6 12.Ne4 Qc7 13.c3 b6 14.Bb1 Bb7 15.Rxd7 Qxd7 16.Rd1 Qc7 17.Nxf6+ Bxf6 18.Qc2 Rfd8 19.Qxh7+ Kf8 20.Re1 Bxf3 21.Bxf6 gxf6 22.gxf3 Ke7 23.Bf5 0-1 (40) Roebers,E (2360)-Shimanov,A (2581) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st Feb Early blitz 2023 (4)]
9.Qe2N
[9.a3 0-0 10.b4 Be7 11.Bb2 N,N-Qxd5]
9...h6 10.a3 Bd7

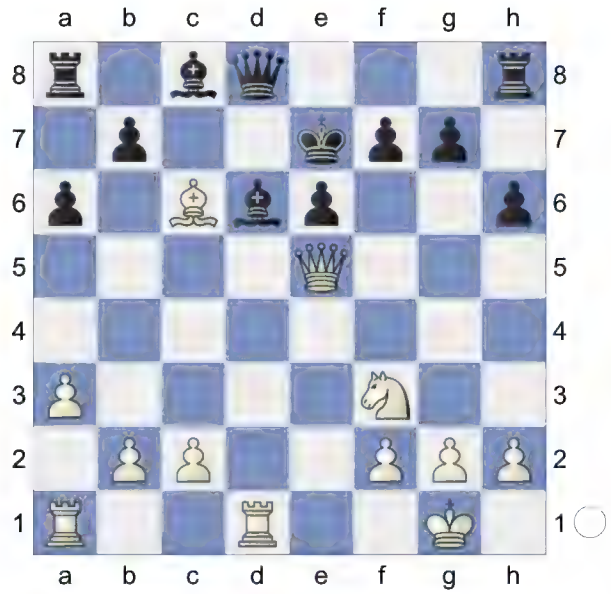
(Diagram)



11.Rd1 a6 12.Ne4 Be7 13.Bf4 Nd5 1.38/20
[⌓13...Nh5 0.97/20 14.Nd6+ Kf8]
14.Nd6+ Kf8 15.Bg3 White is much more active.
[15.Nxb7? Nxf4 16.Qe3 Nd5 17.Nxd8 Nxe3 18.fxe3 Bxd8-+ *(18...Nxd8? 19.Bxa6 Ke8 20.Bf1-+)*]
15...Bc8

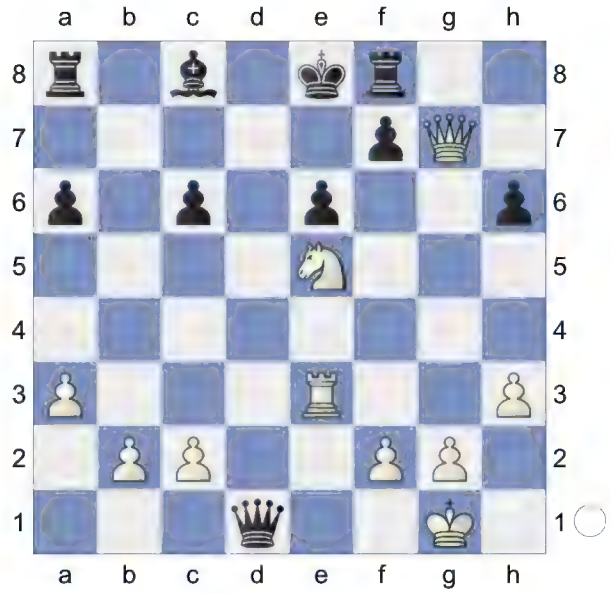
16.Bc4 Discovered Attack **16...Bxd6 17.Bxd5 Bxg3 18.Bxc6 Bd6 19.Qe5 Ke7**
[19...bxc6 20.Rxd6 Qf6 21.Rad1

(21.Rxc6 Bb7±) 21...Qxe5 22.Nxe5±]



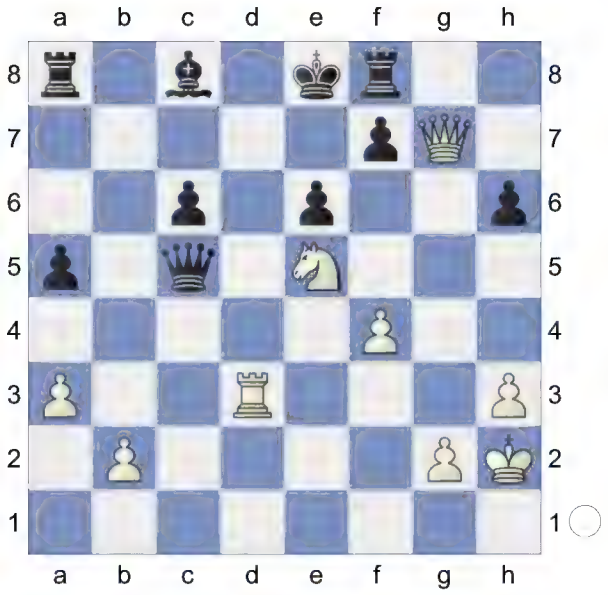
20.Rxd6 -0.31/21 **Qxd6∓**

21.Qxg7 Rd8 22.h3 bxc6
[22...Qxc6 23.Ne5 Qxc2 24.Qxf7+ Kd6 25.Qf4=]
23.Ne5
[23.Qxh6? Rg8 *(23...e5? 24.Qh5-+)* 24.Qh4+ Ke8-+]
23...Rf8 24.Re1 Strongly threatening Re1-e3! **24...Ke8 25.Re3**
[25.Qxh6? Bb7 *(25...Rg8 26.c3∓)* 26.Re3 Qd4-+]
25...Qd1+ -0.22/21
[Black should try 25...Qe7∓ -0.88/22 Hoping for ...Qe7-g5. 26.Qxh6 a5 *(26...Rg8 27.Ng4∓)*]



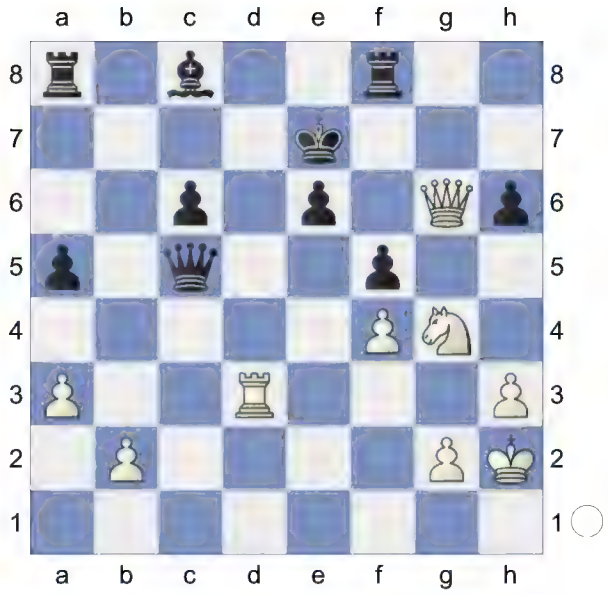
26.Kh2= Qxc2 27.Rd3! aiming for Qg7-f6. **27...Qc5** 0.01/23
[27...Qxb2? 28.Rd8+ *(28.Nxc6 Qb6+-)* 28...Kxd8 29.Qxf8+ Kc7 30.Qxf7+ Kb6 31.Nc4+ Kb5 32.Nxb2+-]
[27...Ra7!∓ -0.84/24 ...Ra7-b7 is the strong threat. 28.Qf6 Rd7 *(28...Qxb2 29.Qd8#)*]
28.f4 And now b2-b4! would win. **28...a5** 1.89/24
[28...Ra7!= 0.01/25 29.b4 Qb5]

(Diagram)

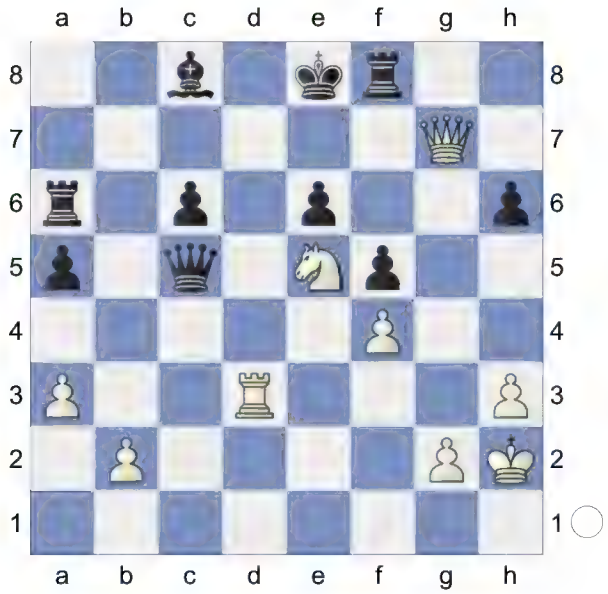


29.Ng4? -0.01/23
[29.b4!+- 1.89/24 axb4 30.axb4 Qxb4 31.Rd8+ Decoy *(31.Qxh6? perishes. Qc5-+)* 31...Kxd8 32.Nxc6+ *(32.Nxf7+? loses. Ke8-+)* 32...Ke8 33.Nxb4]
29...f5? 5.58/25
[29...Rb8= -0.01/23]
30.Qg6+?→ 1.03/25 White wants a kill.
[30.Nf6++- 5.58/25 is more deadly. Rxf6 31.Qxf6]
30...Ke7 1.90/26
[30...Rf7± 1.03/25 31.Ne5 Pin Raa7]

(Diagram)

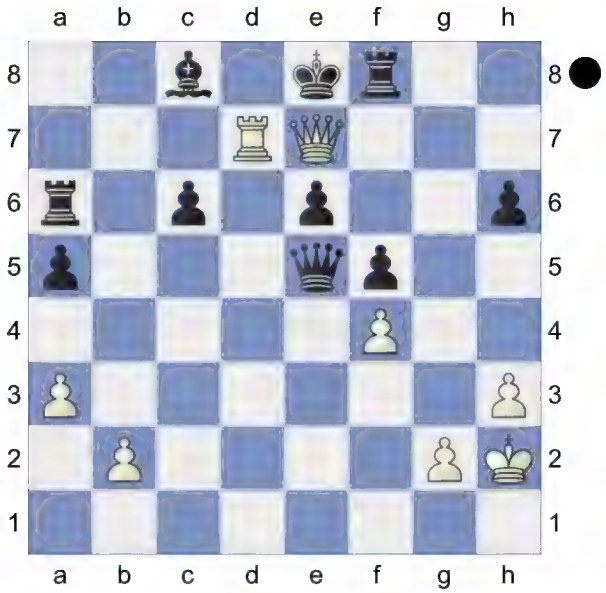


31.Ne5!+- Ra6? #4/10
[31...Ra7+- 2.26/25 32.Qxh6 Ke8]
32.Qg7+ 9.80/5
[⌓32.Rd7+ #4/10 Bxd7 33.Qh7+ Skewer *(33.Qxh6? too greedy. Kd8-+)* 33...Rf7 34.Qxf7+ Kd8 35.Qxd7#]
32...Ke8



33.Rd7! Qxe5
[33...Rf6 34.Qxf6]
34.Qe7#

(Diagram)



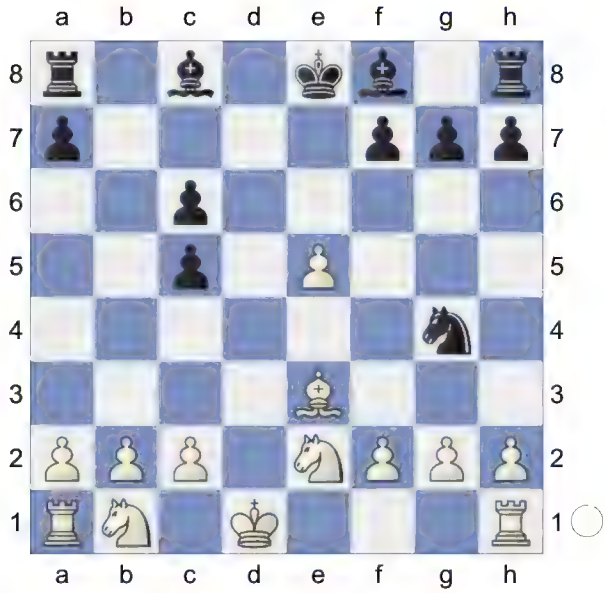
Weighted Error Value: White=0.41/ Black=0.63. An unexpected result.
½-½

76 **C01**
□ **Arribas Lopez,Angel** **2505**
■ **Abrahamyan,Tatev** **2333**
Fall B 2017 Saint Louis USA (7.2)
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

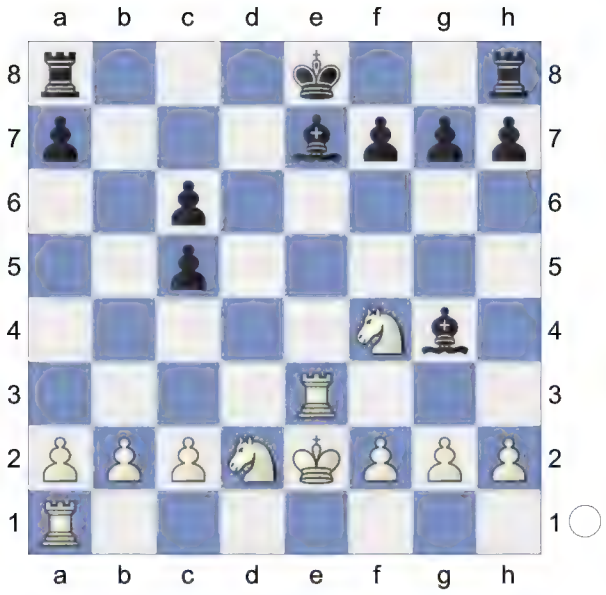
(Diagram)

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 e5 And now ...e5-e4 would win. **8.Bxc6+**
[8.dxc5 Qxd1+ 9.Kxd1 e4 10.Bxe4 Nxe4∓]
8...bxc6 White has an edge. **9.dxe5 Qxd1+ 10.Kxd1 Ng4**

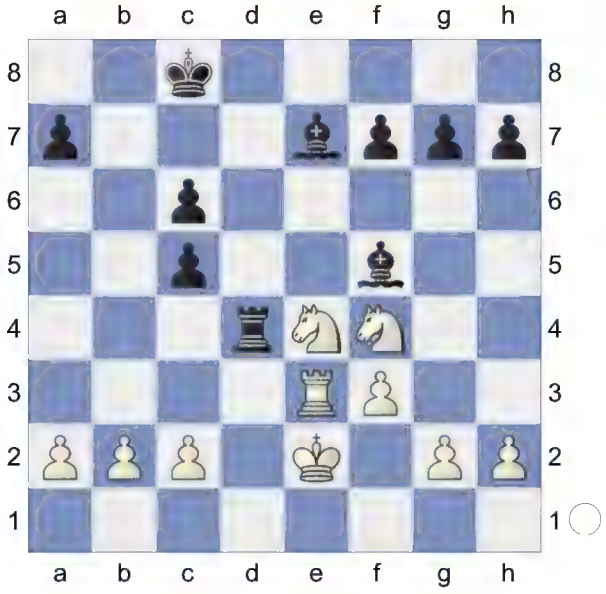


11.Nd2 Nxe5 12.Re1 Ng4 13.Nf4 Nxe3+ 14.Rxe3+ Be7 15.Ke2 Bg4+

(Diagram)

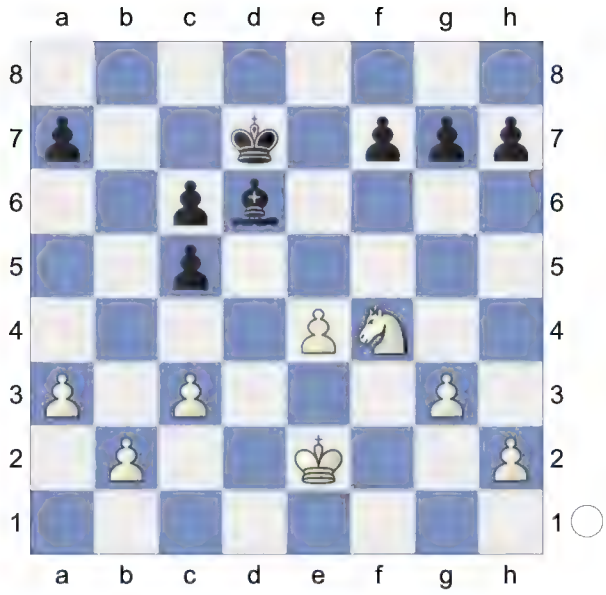


16.f3 White is more active. **16...Bf5 17.Ne4 0-0-0 18.Rd1 Rxd1 19.Kxd1 Rd8+ 20.Ke2 Rd4**

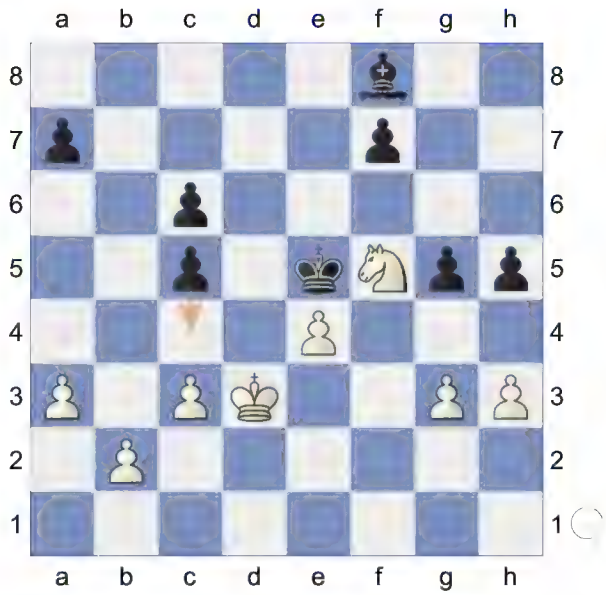


21.c3
[21.Ng3 Bxc2 22.Rxe7 Rxf4]
21...Ra4 22.a3 0.17/19
[22.Ng3± 0.70/22 Bf6 23.Nxf5 Rxf4 24.Ng3 *(24.Nd6+ Kc7=)*]
22...Bxe4 23.Rxe4 Rxe4+ 24.fxe4= Endgame. KB-KN **24...Bd6 25.g3 Kd7**

(Diagram)

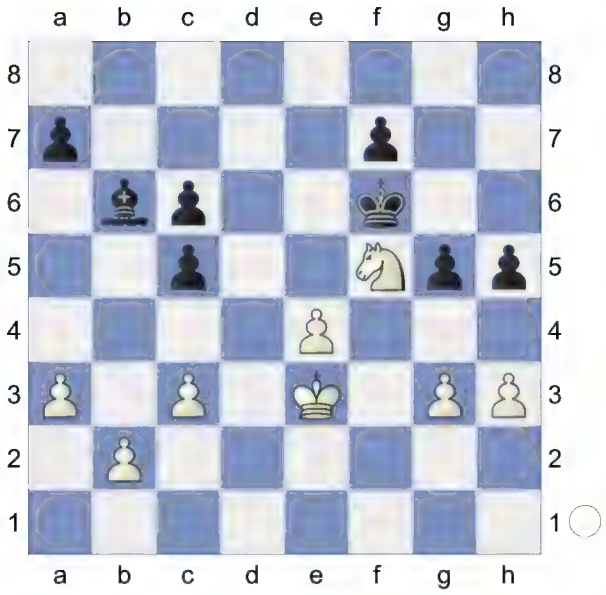


26.Kd3 g5 27.Ng2 h5 28.Ne3 Ke6 29.Nf5 Bf8 30.h3 0.01/23
[30.a4± 0.39/23]
30...Ke5

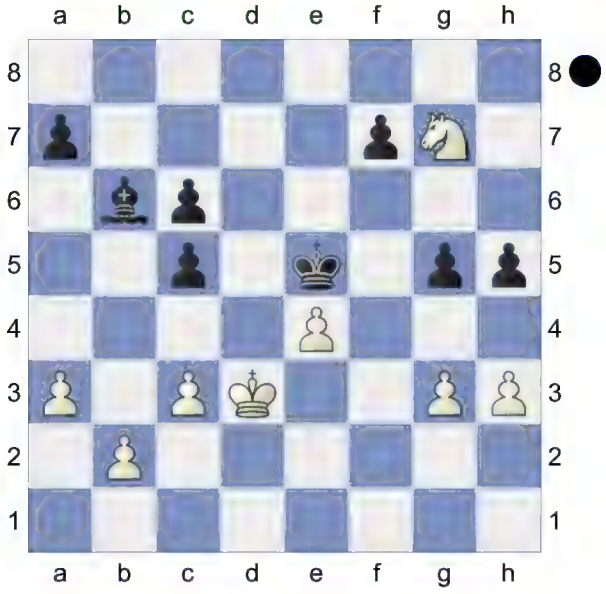


...c5-c4+! would now be deadly. **31.Ne3 Ke6 32.Ke2 Bd6 33.Kf3 Bc7 34.Nf5 Kf6** Dodges Nf5-g7 **35.Ke3 Bb6**

(Diagram)

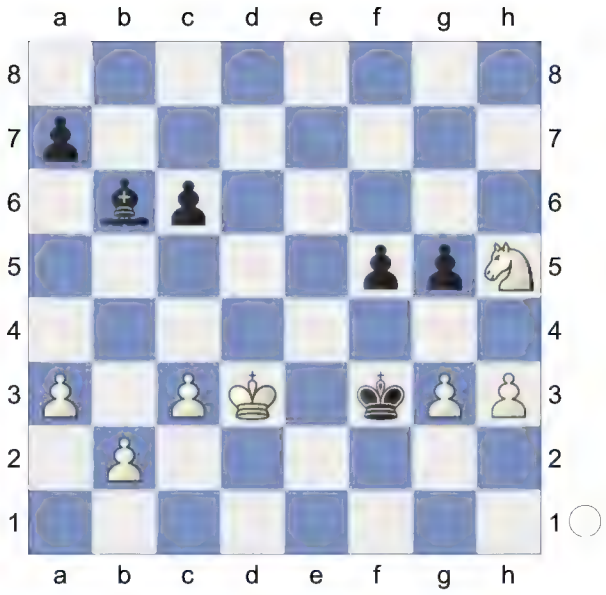


36.Kd3 Ke5 37.Ng7 -0.37/25
[White should try 37.Ne3± 0.40/23]

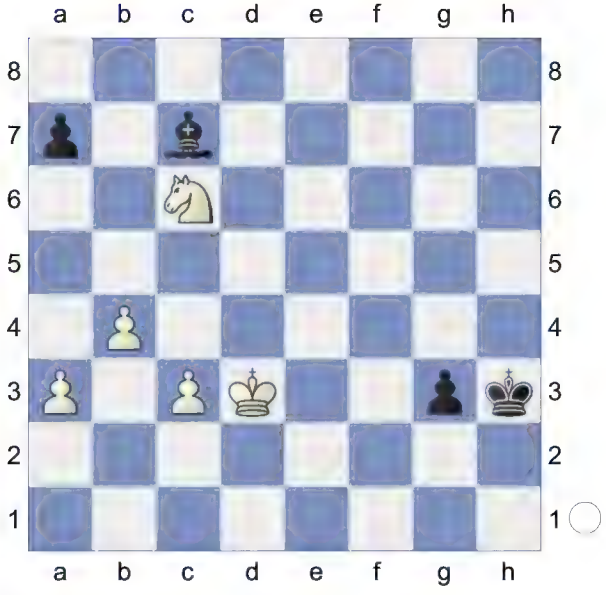


37...c4+!∓ Deflection **38.Kxc4 Kxe4 39.Nxh5 Kf3** -0.01/21
[39...f5∓ -0.48/24 might be stronger.]
40.Kd3 -0.38/24
[40.h4= -0.01/21 should be considered.]
40...f5

(Diagram)

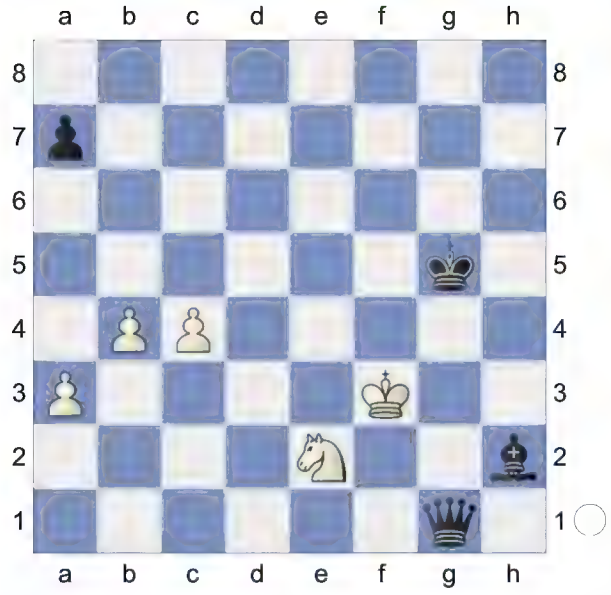


41.b4 Bc7 Strongly threatening ...Bc7-e5! **42.Ng7!**
[42.h4? gxh4 *(42...Bxg3? 43.hxg5 Be5 44.g6+-; 42...g4 43.Kd4∓)* 43.gxh4 Be5-+]
42...Kxg3 Threatens to win with ...f5-f4.
[42...Bxg3? 43.Nxf5 Bf2 44.c4+-]
43.Nxf5+ Kxh3 44.Nd4 g4 With the idea ...g4-g3. **45.Nxc6 g3**

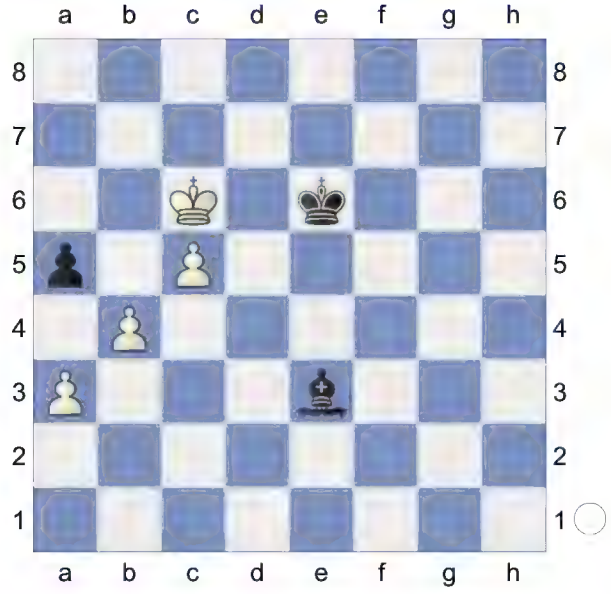


46.Nd4! g2 47.Ne2 Kg4 48.Ke4 Bh2 49.c4 Kg5
[49...g1R? perishes. 50.Nxg1 Bxg1 51.c5+-]

50.Kf3 g1Q
[Of course not 50...g1B?! 51.Kg2 Be3 52.Kxh2±]

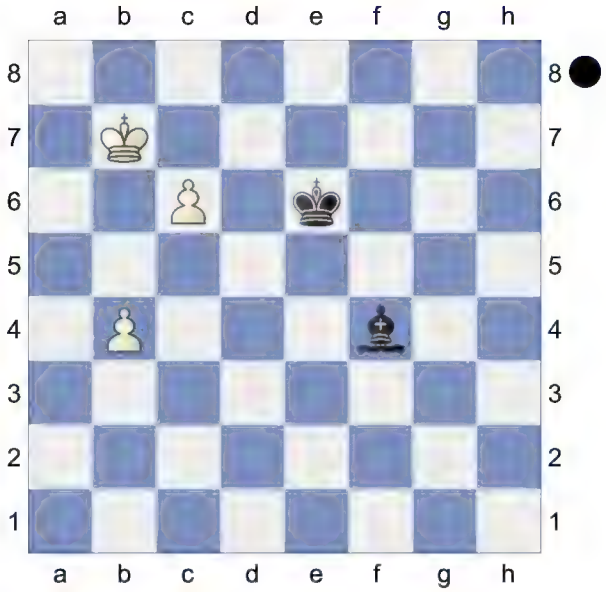


51.Nxg1 Bxg1= KB-K3P **52.Ke4 Kf6!** aiming for ...Kf6-e6. **53.Kd5** Black must now prevent c4-c5. **53...Be3 54.Kc6**
[54.c5!? Bc1□ 55.b5=]
54...Ke6? 9.24/29
[54...Ke5= 0.00/27]
55.c5+- White is clearly winning. **55...a5**



56.Kb7!
[Not 56.bxa5 Bxc5 57.Kxc5 Kd7=]

56...axb4 57.c6N Zwischenzug **57...Bf4 58.axb4**



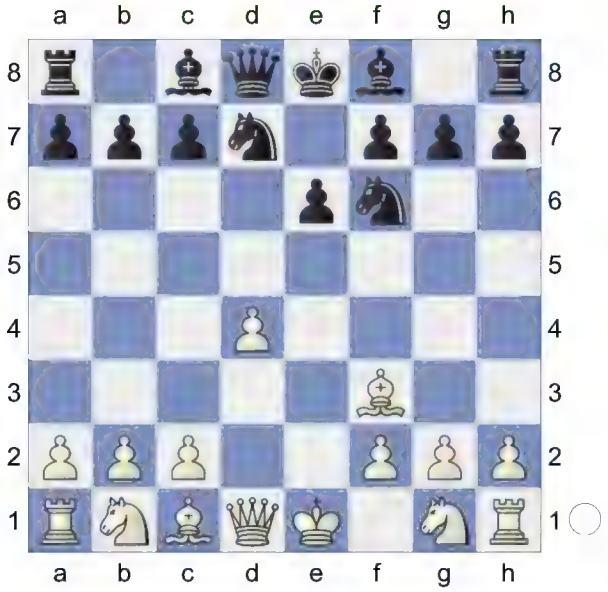
Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
1-0

77 **C01**
□ **Pardo Simon,David** **2388**
■ **Delgado Ramos,Hector** **2488**
13. Sants Open (1) 25.08.2011
[John Watson]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
Prathamesh,Sunil Mokal: 'Wang Hao described this as his best game of the tournament. Let us have a look...' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3** It's remarkable how much has been written about this move that almost no one plays! Instead of rehashing all the well-known theory, Black plays differently in this game and the one in the notes: **3...dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Nbd7**
[What's in the Archives: 5...c5 6.Ne2
A) 6...cxd4 7.Nxd4 (Neil likes *7.Qxd4 Nbd7 8.0-0 Bc5*

for Black, but I imagine that White retains a little something after *9.Qf4)* 7...Bc5 8.Nb3 Qxd1+ 9.Bxd1 is Ernst-Bachofner, Amsterdam NED 2001, analysed by Neil.;

B) 6...Nc6 7.Be3 *(In Mamedov-Martinovic, Aix-les-Bains FRA 2011, I looked at 7.c3 cxd4 8.cxd4 Be7)* 7...cxd4 *(7...e5* 0.21/22 7...Nf6-d5 -0.19 is also analysed in Mamedov-Martinovic*)* 8.Nxd4 Ne5 9.0-0 Nxf3+? 10.Qxf3 with superior development is Bluvshtein-Hoang Thanh Trang in the Archives, which Neil analysed in depth]



Introducing a plan to enforce ...e5 rather than the usual ... c5. This is not without drawbacks, but does solve the problem of blocking off the bishop on f3 if need be after ...c5, the long diagonal is permanently vulnerable. **6.Ne2 e5**

[A very similar opening was seen in Pruja Ramirez de Cartagena-Adrian, Figueres 2011: 6...Bd6 7.Nbc3 0-0 8.0-0 e5 *(8...c6 9.Re1 Qc7* would further prepare ...e5*)* 9.Bg5!? h6 10.Bxf6 Nxf6 11.d5 Nd7 12.Ne4 f5 13.Nxd6 cxd6 and Black's majority is further advanced than Whites. The game continued 14.Nc3 e4!? *(14...Nf6)* 15.Be2 Ne5 16.Qd4 Qf6 17.Rad1 Qg6?! 18.Kh1 a6 19.a4 *(19.f3!=)* 19...Bd7 20.f3 exf3 21.gxf3 Rae8 22.Rde1 *(22.Rf2)* 22...Qf6 23.f4?! Ng4 *(or 23...Qh4)* 24.Qxf6 Nxf6 (White's pawns are weaker than Black's but it's going to be hard to make much out of it) 25.Bd3 Kf7 26.h3? -1.36/23 *(26.Kg2; 26.Rxe8∓* -0.54/22 *Rxe8 27.Kg2)* 26...Nh5?! -0.57/24 *(*careless *26...Rxe1! 27.Rxe1 Nh5!* attacks f4 and g3, while *28.Ne2 Re8! 29.Rg1 Bxa4* loses a pawn for nothing.*; 26...Rxe1∓* -1.36/23 *27.Rxe1 Nh5)* 27.Rxe8∓ Rxe8 28.Kg2 Prevents Nh5-g3. g6

A) 29.b3 Nf6! 30.Kf3 Rc8 31.Bc4 -1.42/23 *(*White should try *31.Ne2* -0.85/23 *)* 31...Rc5;

B) 29.Rf3∓ -0.52/22;

C) 29.Kf3 -1.16/24 29...g5!∓ The game went

C1) Now best was 30.Ne2! Nf6 -0.63/21 *(30...Bxa4* 0.17/24 30...Re8xe2 -0.86 *31.fxg5 hxg5* Threatens to win with ...Ba4-d7. *32.Nd4 f4* aiming for ...Kf7-f6. *33.Kg4 Ng3 34.Ra1=; 30...Rxe2∓* -1.10/23 *31.Bxe2 Nxf4)* 31.Ng3 g4+ 32.hxg4 fxg4+ 33.Kf2 h5∓;

C2) 30.fxg5? hxg5 31.Ne2 -2.61/23 *(31.Rg1∓* -1.23/22 *Kf6 32.b3)* 31...f4-+ 32.Kg2 Re3 33.Ng1 (to protect h3) Bxa4∓ Hoping for ...Ba4-b3! 34.Bf5? -3.91/24 *(⌓34.Rf3* -2.43/22 *)*

34...Ng3!-+ 35.Be6+ Kf6 36.Rf3 Rxf3 37.Nxf3 Bxc2 38.Bc8 Be4 39.Bxb7 a5 40.Kf2 Nf5 *(40...Bxf3 41.Kxf3 Ke5* finishes it immediately*)* 41.Nd2 Bd3 42.Nb3 a4 43.Na5 Nd4 44.Bc6 Bc2 45.Nc4 Bf5 46.Nxd6 Bxh3 47.Bxa4? -7.25/26 *(47.Kg1* -2.70/23 *Ke7 48.Ne4)* 47...g4-+ 48.Bd1 g3+ 49.Kg1 Ke5 50.Nf7+ Kxd5 (-> ...f4-f3) 51.Ng5 Bf5 White must now prevent ...Bf5-e4. 52.Bf3+ -#15/23 *(52.Kg2-+* -4.79/25 *Kc4 53.Bf3)* 52...Nxf3+ 53.Nxf3 Ke4 54.Nd2+ Kd3 55.Nf1 Bh3 0-1]

7.Nbc3

[7.0-0 Bd6 8.Ng3 0-0 9.Nf5 Re8 10.Nxd6 cxd6 11.c3 e4 12.Be2 d5 13.Bf4 Nf8 14.h3 Ng6 15.Bh2 Nh4 16.Na3 a6 17.Nc2 h6 18.Ne3 Be6 19.Qb3 Qd7 20.Bg3 Nf5 21.Be5 Nh7 ½-½ (57) Castro Salguero,R (2474)-6.Nc6 bc6 7.e5 Nd5 8.Nd (2524) 50/127 Berlin 1990 (7)]

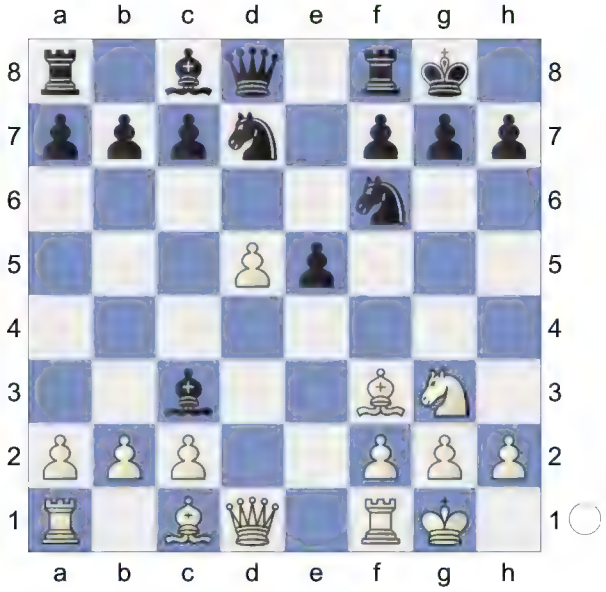
7...Bd6 8.d5N Before Black releases the tension. The position is equal.

[8.Be3 0-0 9.d5 Nb6 10.h3 Bf5 11.g4 e4 12.Bg2 Bg6 13.Bg5 Re8 14.0-0 h6 15.Bh4 Bh7 16.Re1 Bc5 17.Nd4 g5 18.Bg3 Nbxd5 19.Nb3 Bf8 20.Qd4 Nb4 21.Re2 c6 22.Be5 Qxd4 1-0 (58) Baburin,A (2527)-Juarez Flores,C (2391) Olympiad-36 Mallorca 2004 (5) 23.Bxd4 Nfd5 24.Bxe4 Bxe4 25.Nxe4 Nxc2 26.Rd1 Nxd4 27.Nxd4 Kh7 28.Nf5 Kg6 29.f3 h5 30.Red2 h4 31.Kf2 Re5 32.a3 a5 33.Ne3 Nf4 34.Nc4 Rd5 35.Nb6 Rxd2+ 36.Rxd2 Re8 37.Nd7 Nxh3+ 0-1 (58) Onyshchuk,V (2612)-Wang,H (2707) Al Ain op 4th 2015 (4)]

8...0-0 9.Ng3 Bb4!? 10.0-0

[10.Bd2 Re8 11.0-0 Nb6 *(11...Bxc3 12.Bxc3 e4 13.Be2 Ne5 14.Re1±)* 12.Re1 Nc4 is about equal]

10...Bxc3



11.bxc3 Ne8 Black heads for the blockading square d6.

[11...Nb6 looks good, but 12.c4! Nxc4 13.Qe2 is very complex, e.g., Nb6 0.48/21 *(13...b5=* 0.04/22 *)* 14.Bb2 Re8 15.Rfe1 Nbxd5?! 16.Rad1! Nf4 1.05/23 *(* Black should play *16...c6!±* 0.51/24 *)* 17.Qf1!]

12.Ba3 Nd6 13.c4 Qh4 0.49/22 Against Ng3-e4

[13...f5!=]

[13...b6= -0.01/21]

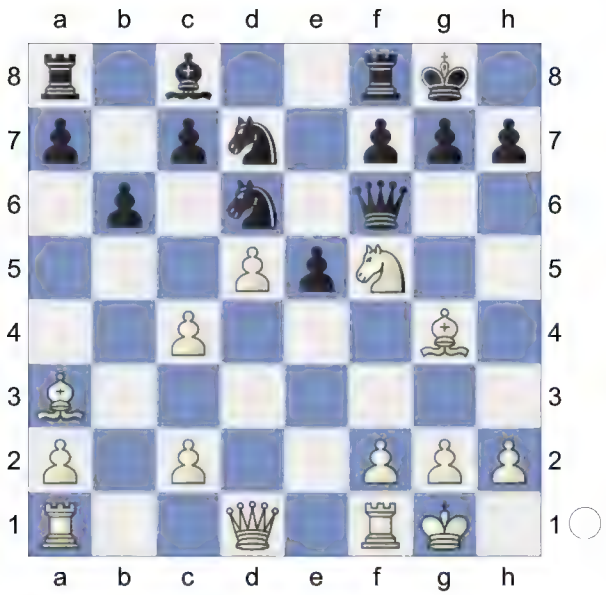
14.Bg4 -0.03/21

[14.Ne4!? Nxe4 15.Bxf8 Kxf8 16.g3 Nxg3 17.hxg3 Qxc4 with two pawns for the exchange, although Black will have trouble untangling the queenside.]

[14.Re1± 0.49/22]

14...b6 15.Nf5 Qf6

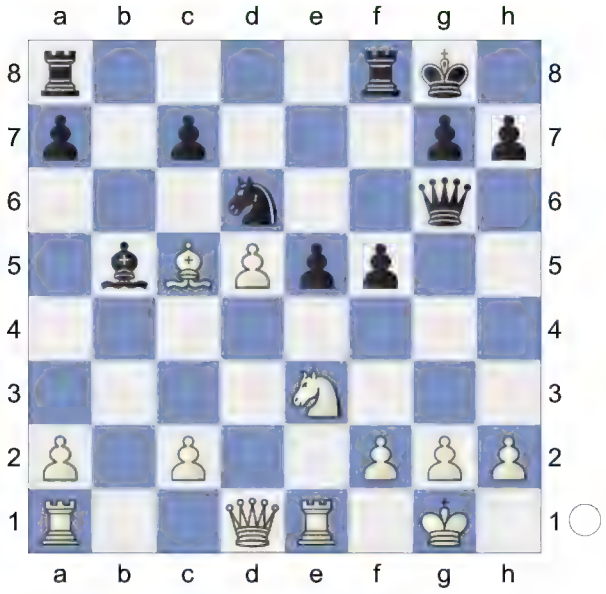
(Diagram)



16.Ne3 Qg6 17.Bxd7!? not illogical but a little impatient. **17...Bxd7 18.c5 bxc5 19.Bxc5 Bb5?!** Against Qd1-d3

[The problem was 19...f5! ...f5-f4 would now be deadly. 20.f4 Rfe8∓ with the ideas of ...exf4 and ...Ne4.]

20.Re1 f5



21.Nf1

[21.c4±]

21...Rae8

[21...Bxf1 simplifies 22.Rxf1 Rfe8 23.Rc1 f4]

22.Nd2 f4!? 23.f3 Rf5 0.58/23

A primitive attacking idea, doubtless insufficient but just the kind we hate to face!

[23...Bd7= -0.09/19]

24.Ne4

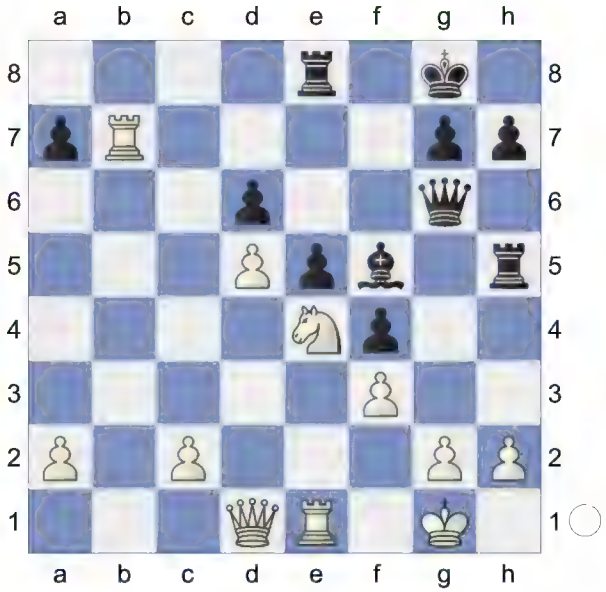
[24.c4! Bd7 25.Qb1]

24...Rh5 0.83/24

[24...Rf7= 0.26/21]

25.Qb1? -0.18/22 Strange timing.

[25.Bxd6 cxd6 and the knight on e4 serves both defensive and offensive purposes. There might follow 26.Rb1 Bd7 27.Rb7 Bf5

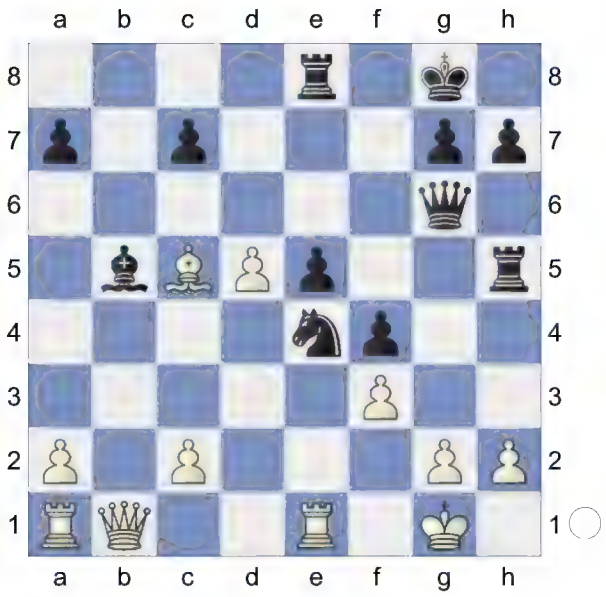


28.Qe2± 0.43/20 *(28.Qb1!± 0.81/22)*]

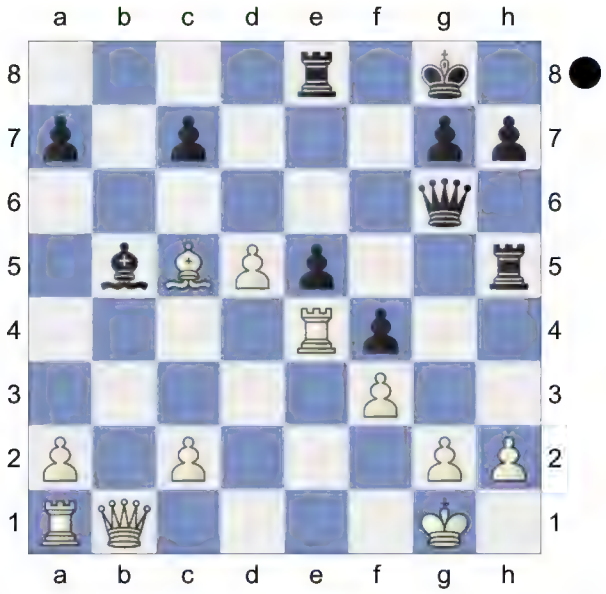
[25.Bxd6± 0.83/24 cxd6 26.Rb1]

25...Nxe4=

(Diagram)



26.Rxe4 -1.13/22
[26.Qxb5∓ -0.66/23 should be considered. Ng5 27.Kh1]



26...Bd7!∓ Suddenly we have a case of opposite-coloured bishops helping the attacker, perfectly illustrated in what follows:. ...Qg6-h6 is the strong threat.
27.Kh1 -1.33/22
[Better is 27.Qb2 -0.87/21 Bh3 28.Re2 *(28.c4? Bxg2 29.Qxg2 Rg5-+)*]
27...Bf5 28.Re2 e4→ Black has strong attack. Black is more active. **29.fxe4** -4.24/27 This move loses the game for White.
[29.Qb5∓ -1.35/21]
29...Qg3-+ 30.Qg1 f3
[30...Bxe4 31.Rae1 Qg6 32.Qf2∓]

31.Bf2 Qg4 32.Re3 fxg2+
[Less strong is 32...Bxe4 33.g3-+]
[Not 32...Rxe4 33.gxf3 Qxg1+ *(33...Rxe3 34.Qxg4 Bxg4 35.fxg4=)* 34.Kxg1 Rxe3 35.Bxe3=]
33.Qxg2 Bxe4 34.Rxe4 Qxe4

Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/ Black=0.12 (very precise)
0-1

78 **C01**
□ **Bluvshtein,Mark** **2463**
■ **Hoang,Thanh Trang** **2463**
FSGM November (1) 07.11.2003
[Neil McDonald]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 As I've already indicated on ChessPub, the best reply is McDonald,Neil: 'As I've already indicated on ChessPub, the best reply is'

[3...c5! as if you compare the position to the French Tarrasch with 3.Nd2 c5 4.exd5 exd5 you will see that White has already committed his bishop to d3 and so doesn't have the option of Bb5- his main attacking thrust. Still, not everyone who plays the French as Black wants to end up in an IQP position, so it is easier to tell people that 3...c5 is the best move than play it myself! McDonald,Neil: 'as if you compare the position to the French Tarrasch with 3.Nd2 c5 4.exd5 exd5 you will see that White has already committed his bishop to d3 and so doesn't have the option of Bb5- his main attacking thrust. Still, not everyone who plays the French as Black wants to end up in an IQP position, so it is easier to tell people that 3...c5 is the best move than play it myself!']

4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 The bishop has been pushed around, but from a strategical point of view it is now well placed in Queen's Gambit/ Catalan style It aims at the b7 square and so stops Black from developing the queen's bishop. White has achieved this without having to weaken his kingside with g2-g3 and Bg2. On the negative side the white knight has been deprived of f3 and the white bishop is a potential target. McDonald,Neil: 'The bishop has been pushed around, but from a strategical point of view it is now well placed in Queen's Gambit/Catalan style; It aims at the b7 square and so stops Black from developing the queen's bishop. White has achieved this without having to weaken his kingside with g2-g3 and Bg2. On the negative side the white knight has been deprived of f3 and the white bishop is a potential target.' **5...c5**

6.Ne2 Nc6 McDonald,Neil: 'More energetic was'

[More energetic was 6...cxd4 7.Nxd4 Bc5! -as given in the analysis on ChessPub.]

7.Be3 cxd4! McDonald,Neil: 'Black has to avoid the plausible'

[Black has to avoid the plausible 7...Nd5? 0.50/20 7...c5xd4 -0.05 as

White has 8.Bxd5 Qxd5 9.Nbc3! winning the pawn on c5 as if Qxg2 10.Rg1 Qxh2 Strongly threatening ... c5xd4. 11.Bf4! Qh5 12.Nb5! Black has no answer to the threat of 13.Nc7+. You can find out more details by checking out De Jong-Archangelsky on ChessPub. McDonald,Neil: 'Black has no answer to the threat of 13.Nc7+. You can find out more details by checking out De Jong-Archangelsky on ChessPub.']

8.Nxd4 Ne5 Black is keen to eliminate the white bishop and so take the pressure off the b7 square, which will allow her to develop the bishop from c8 but this leads to a fatal loss of time. Instead Black should settle for the safe and rather inferior McDonald,Neil: 'Black is keen to eliminate the white bishop and so take the pressure off the b7 square, which will allow her to develop the bishop from c8; but this leads to a fatal loss of time. Instead Black should settle for the safe and rather inferior'. The position is equal. The position is equal.

[8...Nxd4 0.45/21 8...Nc6-e5 0.07 8...Nc6-e5 -0.08 e.g. 9.Bxd4 Be7 10.0-0 0-0 11.c4 when White has a very slight but pleasant advantage. McDonald,Neil: 'when White has a very slight but pleasant advantage.']

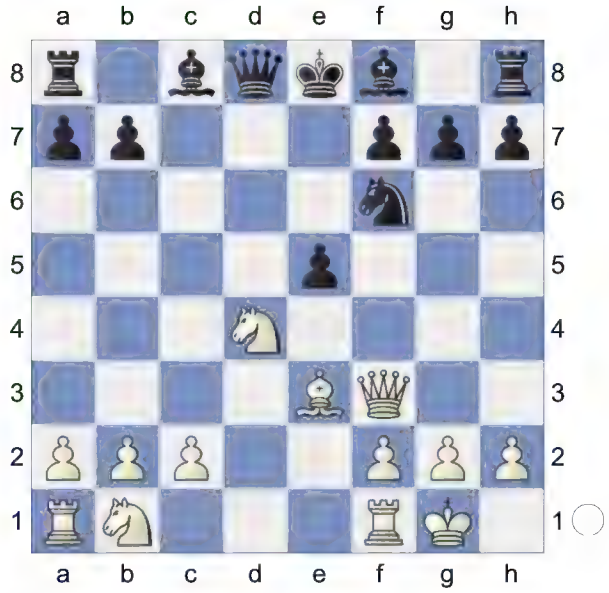
9.0-0 Nxf3+? McDonald,Neil: 'It wasn't too late for the safe and sound'

[It wasn't too late for the safe and sound 9...Be7!]

[9...a6 simplifies 10.Re1 Be7 11.Nd2 Nxf3+ 12.N4xf3 0-0]

10.Qxf3 e5?!

[10...Be7 but an awkward reply is 11.Rd1 for if. Nd4xe6! is the strong threat. Hoping for Nd4xe6! Qa5 0.97/21 *(*Black should try *11...Bd7±* 0.32/19*; 11...Qd5=* 0.25/20 remains equal. *)* 12.Nc6!]

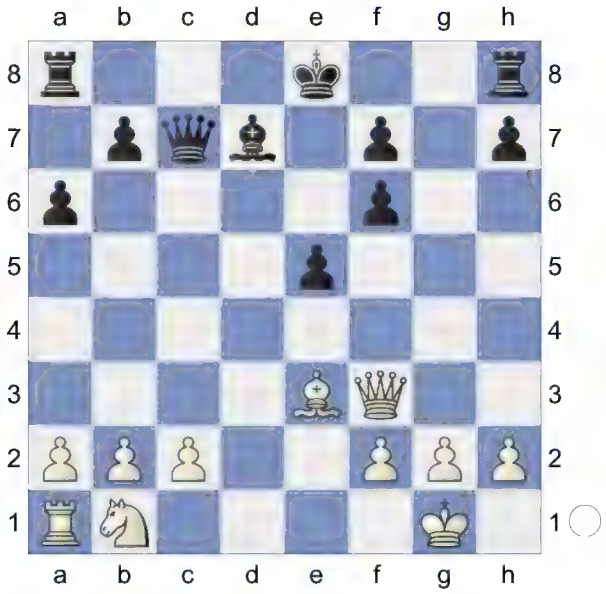


This is unbelievably ambitious with the king two moves from castling! Black had to develop with McDonald,Neil: 'This is unbelievably ambitious with the king two moves from castling! Black had to develop with' **11.Nb5** Now Black has no answer to White's initiative. Threatens to win with Rf1-d1! **11...a6 12.Rd1!** White has to keep up the attack as Black will have a good game with the two bishops and a good centre pawn if allowed to develop quietly. McDonald, Neil: 'White has to keep up the attack as Black will have a good game with the two bishops and a good centre pawn if allowed to develop quietly.' **12...Bd7 13.Nd6+ Bxd6 14.Rxd6 Qc7** 1.15/20 McDonald,Neil: 'If'. Wards off Nb1-c3. Repels Nb1-c3

[If 14...0-0 Hoping for ...Bd7-g4! 15.Bg5 -0.40/21 when the threats include 16.Rxf6 gxf6 17.Bxf6. *(15.Nc3±* 0.59/19 *Qe7 16.Bc5!; 15.Nc3±* 0.73/21 *Qe7 16.Bc5)*]

[Black should play 14...Qe7± 0.64/20 15.Bc5 *(15.Qxb7 Qxd6 16.Qxa8+ Ke7±)* 15...0-0]
[14...0-0± 0.68/23 15.Nc3 *(15.Qxb7 Rb8±)* 15...Qe7]

15.Rxf6!± gxf6



16.Qxf6 Now the black king will never get to escape from the centre. McDonald,Neil: 'Now the black king will never get to escape from the centre.' **16...Rg8 17.Bg5**

The presence of opposite coloured bishops gives a crucial zest to White's attack: on g5 the white bishop stops Black ever playing Rd8. McDonald,Neil: 'The presence of opposite coloured bishops gives a crucial zest to White's attack: on g5 the white bishop stops Black ever playing Rd8.' **17...Bc6** 1.45/22

[⌓17...Be6 1.21/23]
[⌓17...Be6 1.06/24]

18.Nc3 With the threat of 19.Re1 and 20. Rxe5+. Black is weak on the dark squares **18...h6 19.Qxh6** Black has earned some respite from the attack, but how is she ever going to develop her queen's rook or bring her king to safety? McDonald,Neil: 'Black has earned some respite from the attack, but how is she ever going to develop her queen's rook or bring her king to safety?'. White is more active. Threatens to win with Ra1-d1.

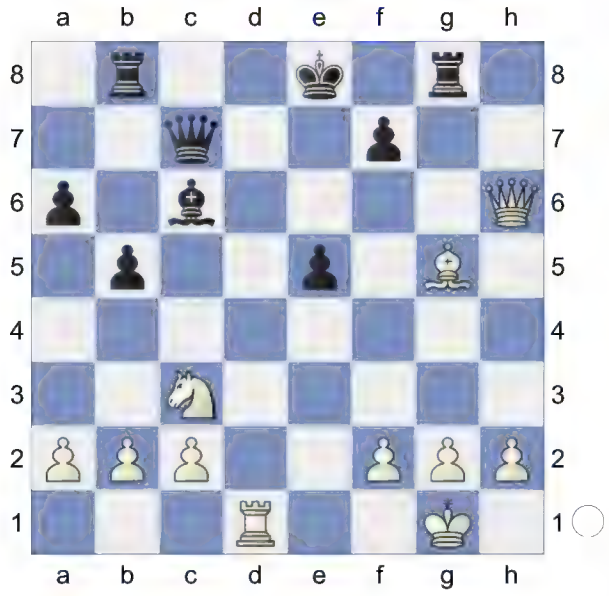
[19.Bxh6? -2.46/26 19.Qf6xh6 1.48 Rxg2+ *(19...Bxg2?* 0.32/23 19...Rg8xg2+ -2.52 *20.Re1±)* 20.Kf1 And now Ra1-e1 would win. Rxh2-+]
[19.Bxh6 Rxg2+ *(19...Bxg2 20.Re1±)* 20.Kf1 Rxh2 21.Qh8+ Kd7 22.Rd1+ Ke6 23.Qxa8 Bf3 *(23...Rxh6 24.Ke2=)* 24.Qe8+ Kf5∓]

19...b5? 3.97/22 Black cannot hold the game after this.

[19...Qd7 1.68/22

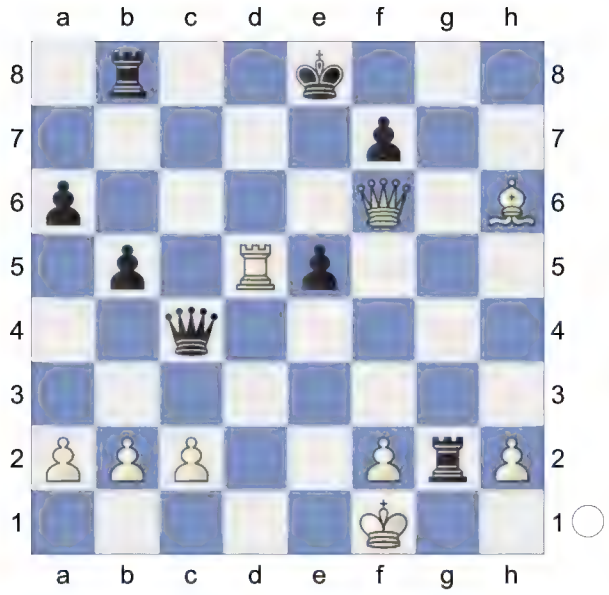
(Diagram)

20.Qf6! Qe6 21.Qxe6+ fxe6]
[19...Qd7± 1.39/23 20.Qf6 Qe6]
20.Rd1+- Rb8



21.Qf6 Kf8!? 11.05/28 Black tries for a clever swindle by luring the white bishop away from g5 so that g2 becomes exposed to attack. McDonald,Neil: 'Black tries for a clever swindle by luring the white bishop away from g5 so that g2 becomes exposed to attack.'
[⌓21...b4 3.95/20 22.Re1 *(22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.Rxd5 Rxg5+-)* 22...Rxg5 23.Qxg5 Qd6]
[⌓21...b4 4.90/26 22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.Rxd5 Rxg5]
22.Bh6+ 4.89/5
[22.Rd6? 2.95/25 22.Nc3-d5 10.96 Rxg5 23.Qh6+ *(23.Rxc6 Qd7+-)* 23...Rg7 24.Rxc6 Qd7+-]
[⌓22.Nd5 11.00/26 Threatening mate with Bg5-h6+. Bxd5 23.Bh6+ *(23.Rxd5? 2.44/24 23.Bg5-h6+ 10.99 Rxg5 24.Qxg5* Qg5-f6 is the strong threat. *Qxc2+-)* 23...Ke8 24.Rxd5]
[⌓22.Nd5 11.05/28 Intending Bg5-h6+ and mate. Bxd5 23.Bh6+ *(23.Rxd5 Rxg5 24.Qxg5 Qxc2+-)* 23...Ke8 24.Rxd5]
22...Ke8 aiming for ...Rg8-g6! **23.Nd5 Rxg2+!? 24.Kf1!!** McDonald,Neil: 'The pin on d5 would be awkward after'
[The pin on d5 would be awkward after 24.Kxg2? 1.90/22 24.Kg1-f1 7.95 24.Kg1-f1 8.27 Rd8 whereas the calm king move leaves White attacking the black queen, rook and king- in the last case as 25. Qh8+ is now threatened. McDonald,Neil: 'whereas the calm king move leaves White attacking the black queen, rook and king- in the last case as 25. Qh8+ is now threatened.']
[Weaker is 24.Kxg2 Rd8 25.Kg3 *(25.c4 1.05/22* 25.Kg2-g3 2.31 *bxc4 26.Re1 Rxd5±)* 25...Rxd5+-]
24...Bxd5 25.Rxd5 Qc4+

(Diagram)



26.Rd3! The only move to win rather than lose, as if McDonald,Neil: 'The only move to win rather than lose, as if'

[26.Kxg2? -1.58/22 26.Rd5-d3 7.85 26.Rd5-d3 8.10 Qxd5+ or]

[26.Ke1 Rg1+ 27.Kd2 Qxd5+ both win for Black.]

26...Qe4 McDonald,Neil: 'White picks up the rook on b8 with check followed by checkmate after either'

[White picks up the rook on b8 with check followed by checkmate after either 26...e4 27.Qe5+ or]

[26...Rg6 27.Qxe5+]

27.Qh8+ Skewer

[27.Qxa6? -1.53/23 27.Qf6-h8+ 24.91 Rxh2 28.Be3 Rh1+ 29.Ke2 Qg4+ 30.f3 Rh2+ 31.Bf2 Qc4∓]

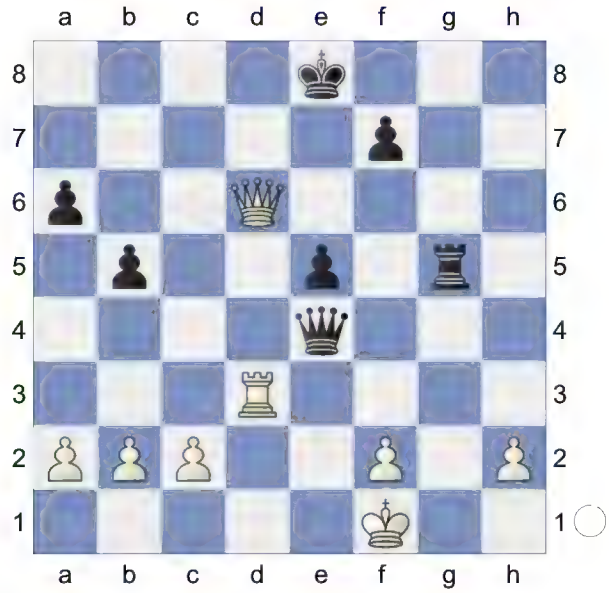
[Inferior is 27.Qxa6 Rxh2 28.Be3 Rh1+ 29.Ke2 Qg4+ 30.f3 Qc4-+]

27...Ke7 28.Qxb8 Rg6

(Diagram)

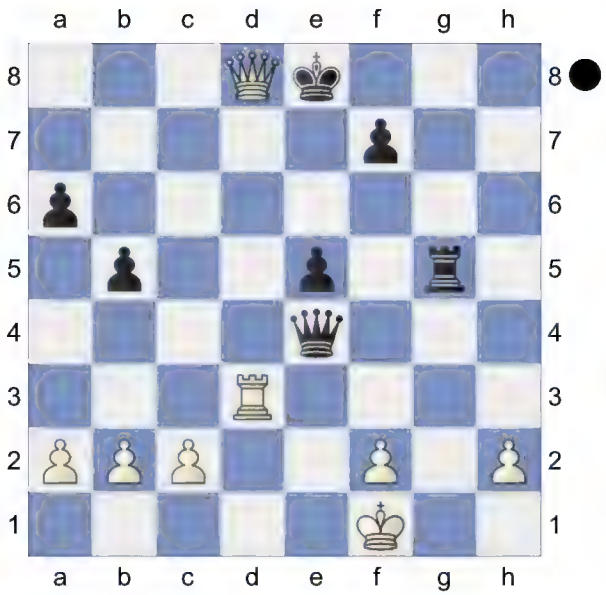
Prevents Qb8-d6+. Wards off Qb8-d6+

29.Bg5+! A nice finishing touch as it is forced mate. McDonald,Neil: 'A nice finishing touch as it is forced mate.'. White mates. White mates. **29...Rxg5N 30.Qd6+ Ke8**



31.Qd8#

(Diagram)

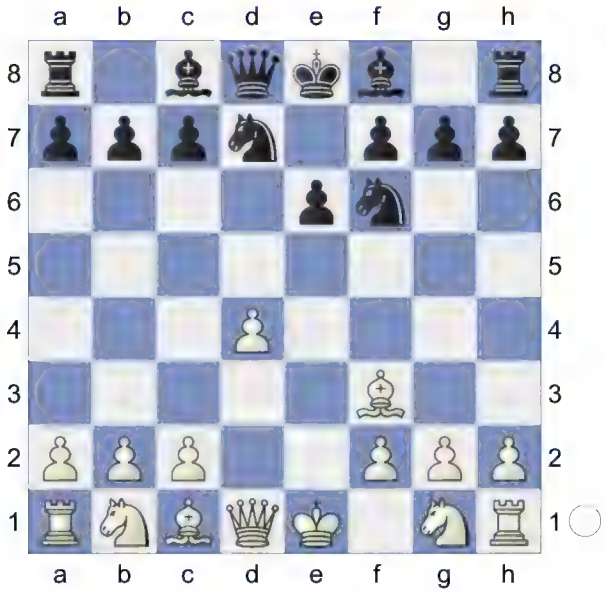


Weighted Error Value: White=0.46/ Black=0.62.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.51/ Black=0.69
1-0

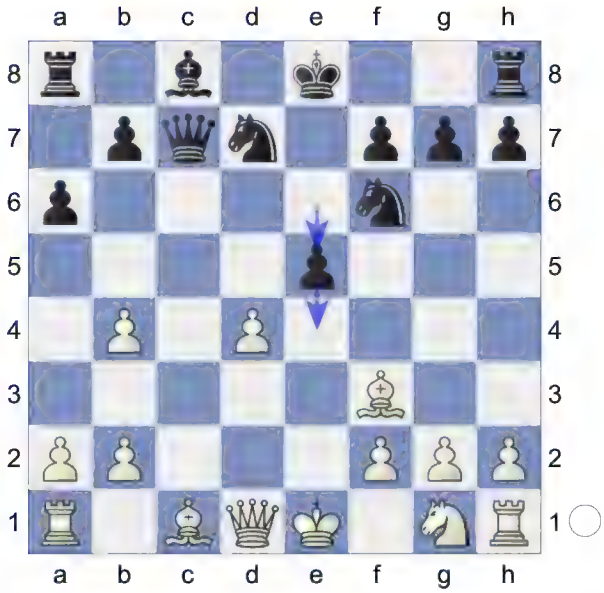
79 **C01**
☐ **6) Odds and Ends**
■ **The Schlechter Variation**
[TA]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 When delving into the realm of chess literature, it's common to come across authors who frequently reference Bobby Fischer's quote, citing this move as the 'Best by test'. But that doesn't mean everything was always easy for him after 1. e4. If all chess fans are (or should be) well-acquainted with attacking masterpieces in the King's Indian Attack by the 11th World Champion, we should not forget that the chess prodigy experienced problems against 1...e6, also known as the French Defense. If a little pawn move used to pose some headaches for such a gifted player, we can imagine how devastating it can be against less experienced players. **1...e6** This move introduces the French Defense. With this opening, Black isn't striving for equality but rather for middlegame positions filled with imbalances, allowing him to outplay his opponents. As it is well-known, creating imbalances is the best strategy to play for a win. Hence, the French Defense is one of the best openings for those aiming to play for a win against 1. e4. As already mentioned in the introduction, I will present to you in this course lots of practical and poisonous weapons that you can throw at your opponents. The goal is to provide lines where unprepared opponents will - more often than not - not survive the opening stage. **2.d4 d5** After this move, White has four main different options to consider. We will investigate all of them in-depth in the course. All sidelines are also investigated in an independent chapter. Here is a brief reminder of the repertoire choices against the four mainlines: A. 1. e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 This is the Classical variation. 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6. Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Be7 is my recommendation. This is our deadly weapon against the Classical. White will have to be careful to avoid being tricked into a devastating attack. B. 1.e4 e6 2. d4 d5 3.Nd2 This is the Tarrasch variation. 3...Nc6 is my recommendation. This is known as the Guimard variation. This move is going against the typical c5-breakthrough. On the next move, we want to induce e4-e5 by playing ...Ng8-Nf6. After retreating our knight on d7, we will take advantage of the e5-pawn to

use the other typical breakthrough ...f7-f6. This system will give us lots of attacking chances against White's king. C. 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 This is the Advance variation. 3...c5 4.c3 Nc6 5.Nf3 Nh6 is my recommendation. We develop our knight on h6 and are ready to jump on f5 next to exert pressure on the d4-pawn. From h6, we tempt White to spoil our pawn structure by getting rid of his dark-squared bishop. D. 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 White has three main continuations. There are some lines where we don't have a choice but to play a solid game. But most of the time, we will go for venomous lines where White has chances to go wrong. **3.Bd3** The Schlechter Variation. This is a tricky line — especially for short-time controls — full of venom. **3...dxe4** The drawback is that White loses time moving the same piece. **4.Bxe4 Nf6** We take advantage of the poor placement of the bishop to develop with tempo. **5.Bf3** This is White's concept. Instead of f3, the knight will be developed on the e2-square. **5...Nbd7!?**



Our plan is simple: We want to continue with ...Bd6, ...O-O, and ...e6-e5. **6.Nc3 Bd6** We continue with our plan and are not scared of the Nb5-idea. **7.Nb5 Bb4+!** We induce c3. **8.c3** White has an edge. **8...a6!** It is also possible to retreat the bishop on a5. **9.Nxc7+** The only move to keep the game equal. **9...Qxc7** The position is equal. **10.cxb4 e5**



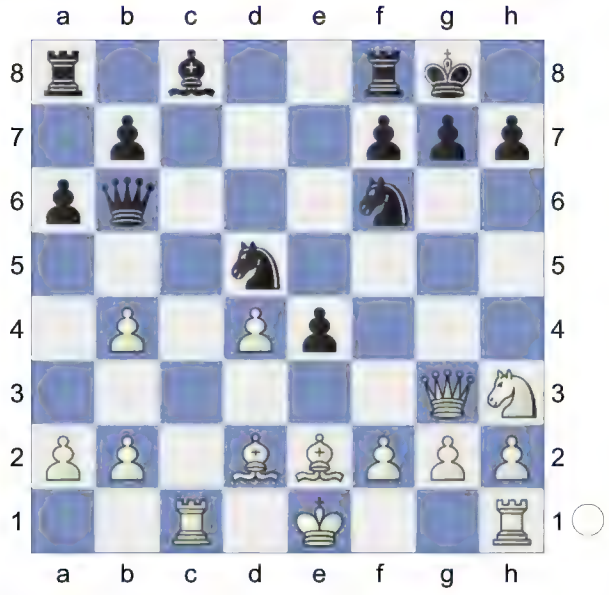
White has problems completing his development. Black has good compensation for the pawn. I will stop the trainable here as this position never happened in practice. However, I'll show you how the game could continue as there is a Repertoire Clash with another Chessable course. **11.Nh3** This is the recommended continuation in the course Tackle the French: A Practical repertoire with 3. Bd3 by Chessforlife. **11...e4** With this move, we secure the d5-outpost for one of our knight. **12.Be2 Nd5** We immediately put our knight on his best square and attack the b4-pawn. Repels Nh3-f4 **13.Bd2 N7f6** We continue our development. White can't castle because of ...Bxh3. **14.Rc1** White gains a tempo. **14...Qd6 15.Qb3**

[15.a3 -0.37/23 15.Qd1-b3 0.15 Bxh3

16.gxh3 0-0 and Black is better. White defends the b4-pawn for now. His idea is to exchange queens by playing Qb3-Qg3 on the next move.]

15...0-0N

16.Qg3 White continues with his plan. The trade would only help White as the bishop pair advantage is an important positional plus in the endgame. **16...Qb6**



Both the d4- and b4-pawns are under attack. One of them will fall depending on how White continues. If we are going for the d4-pawn, we should play ...Bxh3 first to deviate White's queen and avoid tactical ideas related to Bh6. Next, our goal will be to neutralize White's bishop pair advantage. Funnily, the engine's best continuation for White is to play Nf4 (avoiding the Bxh3 idea) and later give up the bishop with Bc3 after Black captures the d4-pawn. Hence, Black got his pawn back and neutralized White's bishop pair advantage. The position is equal. A rather calm draw.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)

80 **C01**

□ **Onischuk,Vladimir** **2583**

■ **Gharagyozian,Artur** **2216**

15th ch-EUR Indiv 2014 (1.78) 03.03.14

[https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk]

In this game Onischuk somehow ended up playing a non-titled player in a classical game in 2014.

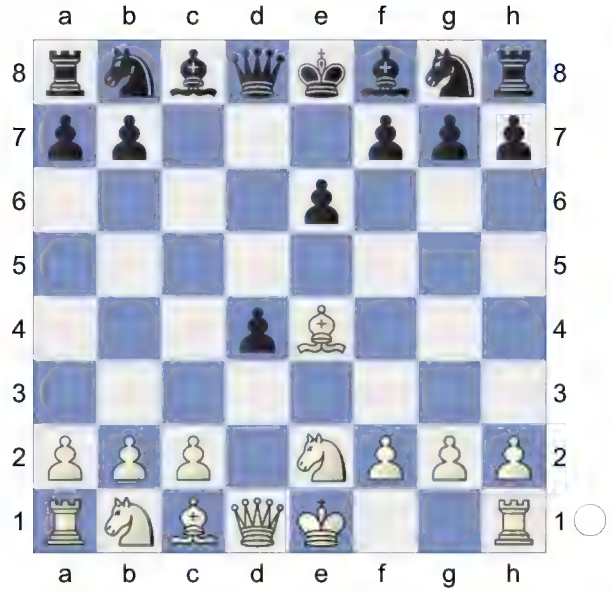
C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4

Here we see the other main line which Onischuk was obviously prepared for.

4.Bxe4 c5!? Here Artur played an interesting move. Usual move is Nf6 and we'll see that of course later in the study. It's not the first time that this move is played but it in reality isn't played a lot as master players do not consider it as good as Nf6 gaining the tempo on white's e4 bishop. **5.Ne2 cxd4?!**

[5...Nf6 It's much better again to play Nf6 and gain tempo on white's bishop where after 6.Bf3 we transpose to the main line. Again, black doesn't want to take for the same reasons as before 5... Nf6.]

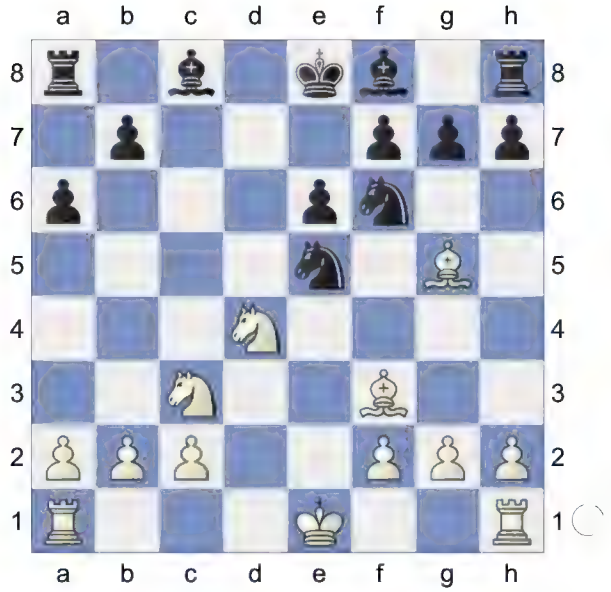


Allthough this is still a dubious move. There is no reason to trade the queens this early as it actually gives white advantage. **6.Qxd4 Qxd4 7.Nxd4** Why is white a bit better here? Because white is much more active and black's LSB (short for light-squared bishop) is still stuck. **7...Nf6 8.Bf3** White is slightly better. **8...a6** This stops Nb5 ideas. Against Nd4-b5 **9.Nc3N** Neither me or the engine appreciate this move. I don't see an immediate good future for the knight. Best guess why this was played is because that is played in the main line, but there are no queens here so it isn't as good.

[9.Nd2± It's better to play like this to get the knight on c4 and potentially put it on b6 even. Bc5 10.N4b3 Ba7 11.Na5 Nd5 12.0-0 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-6...cxd4 #2]

[9.0-0 Nbd7 10.Na3 Bxa3 11.bxa3 Ne5 12.Be2 Bd7 13.Rb1 Nc6 14.Nb3 b6 15.Bf3 Rc8 16.Be3 Ne5 17.Bb7 Rxc2 18.Bxa6 0-0 19.Bxb6 Ra8 20.Nd4 Rd2 21.Bb5 Rxa3 22.Bxd7 Nexd7 23.Nf3 Rdxa2 0-1 (48) Minvielle,V (1860)-Henry,S (1688) Rennes op 2012 (6.7)]

9...Nbd7 10.Bg5 Ne5



11.Be2 Bb4 12.Bf4

[12.Bxf6 You don't want to take the knight even though you damage the structure as after gxf6 13.0-0-0 Rg8 14.g3 Bd7 15.Ne4 Be7= black is gonna be able to play f5 and will be able to utilize white's light square weaknesses on the queen side. Also, black has the bishop pair in an open position giving him more chances then white.]

12...Ng6 13.Bd2 Stopping Ne4 and being the only move for an advantage.

[13.Be3? -0.50/19 13.Bf4-d2 -0.12 Here black gets an advantage after Ne4 and this is problematic for white and he'll end up down a pawn. 14.Bd2?? -1.21/22 This would also now be too slow as after *(14.Bd3= -0.26/19 Bxc3+ 15.bxc3 Nxc3 16.Bd2)* 14...Nxd2!∓ 15.Kxd2

(Diagram)

Bc5!∓ f3 pawn is hanging.]

[13.Bg3? This is worse again after Ne4 14.a3 Bxc3+ 15.bxc3 Nxc3∓ and black again has an extra pawn.]

[13.Bg5?? And this obviously losses again to Ne4 which forces white into Bd2 variation that I've shown previously. 14.Be3?? -3.68/21 This is an even bigger blunder as after *(14.Bd2∓ -1.32/20 Nxd2 15.Kxd2)* 14...Nxc3-+ white cannot take the knight since there is Bxc3+ fork. 15.a3 Nxe2+ 16.axb4 Nxd4 17.Bxd4 0-0-+ And black is simply up a piece.]

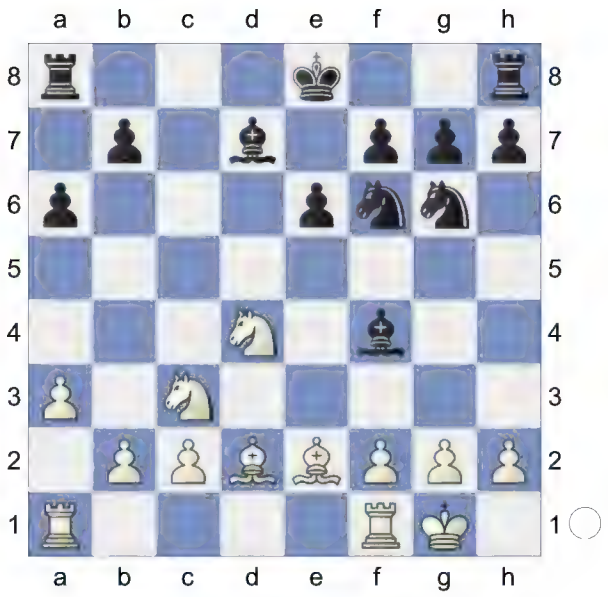
[13.Bc1? This also obviously losses to Ne4. Ne4 14.a3 Bxc3+ 15.bxc3 Nxc3∓ Black is again, up a pawn.]

13...Bd7 14.a3 Bd6 15.0-0

[15.0-0-0!? This is possible but it means both players are gonna castle on the same side as black cannot castle short, so the fight is not gonna be as tactical and would be much longer. 0-0? This isn't a good move as after 16.Bf3± black has some trouble on the h1-a8 diagonal.]

15...Bf4

(Diagram)



16.Rfd1 Bxd2 17.Rxd2 0-0-0

[17...0-0?! 18.Bf3± This is still a problem for black. Engine might say it's equal, but in practicality it's not so clear and white is the one who has the initiative.]

18.Rad1 Kc7!? This is an interesting move by Artur. It's a very creative idea that to a naked eye might not make any sense at all. There are 2 ideas behind this move. One idea is that now in every endgame, Artur's king is quicker then Onischuk's king and might give Artur an upper edge when trying to promote on the queen side. As we'll see, it actually did make sense for the most part and the only thing that Artur was missing was precision. The other idea is that now Artur can at some point in the endgame play Rc8 where the rook will be on a strong file for itself. A very creative one showing that at the time, Artur was underrated and personally I don't understand how this guy never got an FM title considering that at one point in 2019 he got his peak of 2321. Yes, now as he is a bit older (he is 37) he is way of his peak (at 1990) but I still think

that at this time at least a CM title should've been given to him if not the FM title. **19.a4 e5 20.Nf3 Bg4**

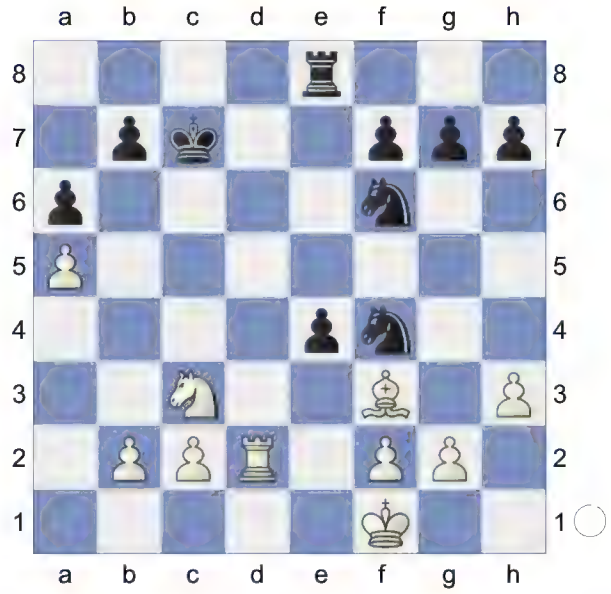
21.h3 Rxd2 22.Rxd2 Bxf3 Black has to give up the bishop for a knight as if he plays something else white will get the advantage.

[22...Bf5?! Returning like this doesn't help as after 23.Bc4! hitting the f7 pawn Rf8 protecting it there is 24.Ng5 and now the only move that doesn't put black in a very bad position is Nh8 and then just look at how ugly this is. Even here white can play 25.Re2 Kd6 26.a5± and have a much easier to play position. I mean, just look at how ugly black's position looks, it feels like a 300 rated player is playing it.]

[22...Be6 0.77/22 22...Bg4xf3 0.12 Returning here is fine but you have to give up the bishop anyways after 23.Ng5= or you'll lose the pawn on f7.]

[22...Bd7?! This again isn't good for the same reasons as Bf5 as there is 23.Bc4 Rf8 now not Ng5 but instead 24.Re2 first. And now after Kd6 25.Nd2± to go to c4 at some point with white being much more active here then black.]

23.Bxf3 Nf4 24.a5!? Trying to stop all the movement on the queen side for black. **24...Re8 25.Kf1 e4**



26.Be2 Re5 27.Bc4?! I don't see what was wrong with b4, a5 pawn (in my opinion) is pretty important for white.

[27.b4! I guess Onischuk didn't like the move N6d5 but after 28.Rd4! Nxc3 29.Rc4+= Onischuk would get the knight back and would be able to protect the b4 pawn so that it can protect the a5 pawn.]

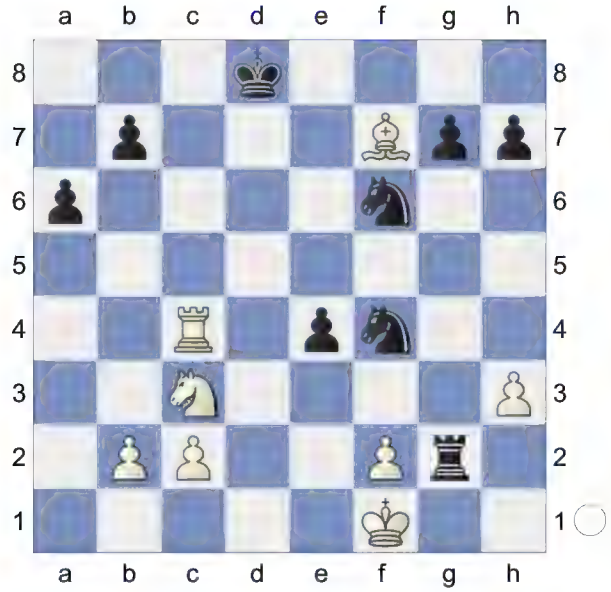
27...Rxa5 28.Bxf7 Rg5 -0.01/22

[Better is 28...Ra1+∓ -0.51/22 29.Rd1 Rxd1+ 30.Nxd1 a5]

29.Rd4= Ra5?? 0.91/22 And this is where Artur made a blunder that cost him the game after f3 which Onischuk played. I do not know what he missed.

[29...Nxg2 Like, it's a simple calculation. You take the pawn like this (not with the rook as that hangs it) and after 30.Nxe4 Rf5 31.Kxg2 Nxe4 32.Rxe4 Rxf7= This is just a draw. It's a theoretical draw, nothing for either side to do here.]

[29...Rxg2?? This losses the game after 30.Rc4+ Kd8 1.26/23 *(30...Kb8+- 2.21/22)*



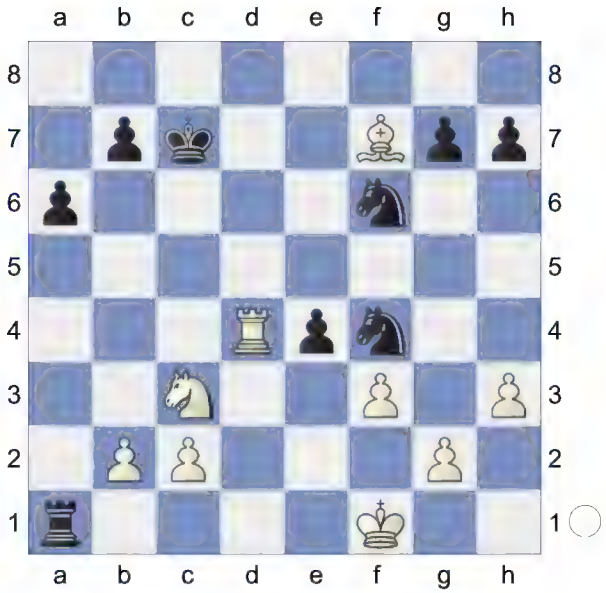
31.Ne2!± Nxe2 32.Kxg2+- white is up an exchange and is gonna win the game.]

[29...Rxg2 30.Rc4+ Kd8 31.Ne2 Nxe2 32.Kxg2+-]

[29...Nxg2= 0.01/23 keeps the balance. 30.Nxe4 Rf5]

30.f3!± What's the point? Well, now after Artur's idea white simply still defends the g pawn and is much better. Black is on the road to losing. **30...Ra1+**

(Diagram)



31.Kf2 Rc1 32.Bb3

[Stronger than 32.Nxe4 Rxc2+ 33.Kf1 Nxg2 *(33...Rxb2 34.Nxf6 Rb1+ 35.Kf2=)* 34.Nxf6 gxf6∓]

[32.Rc4+ Kd6±]

32...Ng6

[32...e3+ 33.Kxe3 Ng6 *(33...Nxg2+? is the wrong capture. 34.Kf2+-)* 34.Ne4]

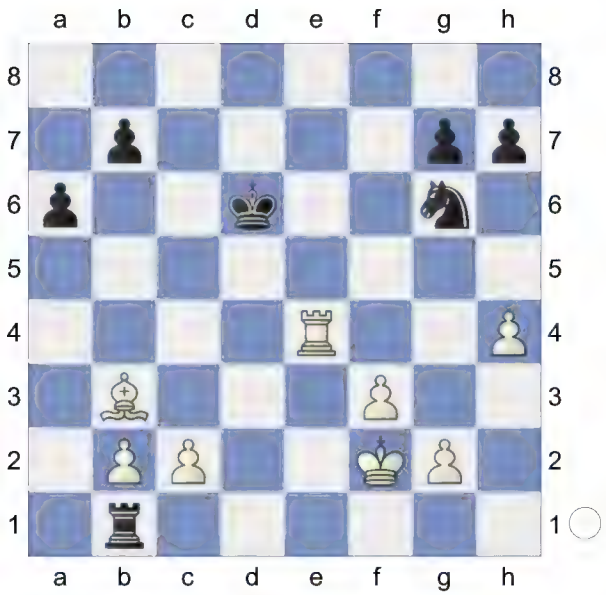
33.Nxe4 And now Onischuk is up a pawn and went on to win the game because of that. 1 simple blunder let Artur to a loss in a very well fought battle actually. White is more active. **33...Nxe4+ 34.Rxe4** Endgame. KRB-KRN **34...Rb1** 2.51/23

[34...a5± 1.41/21 is a better defense. 35.Rc4+ Kd6]

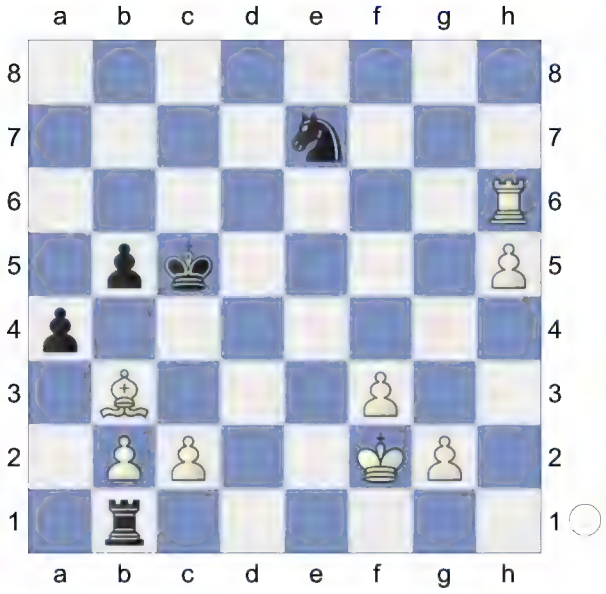
35.h4+- Artur can regain a pawn here but doing so results in a even quicker win. And now h4-h5 would win. **35...Kd6**

[35...Rxb2? 3.45/24 35...Kc7-d6 1.81 36.h5 Nf8 37.Re7++- And black can resign as white will get all the pawns slowly but surely.]

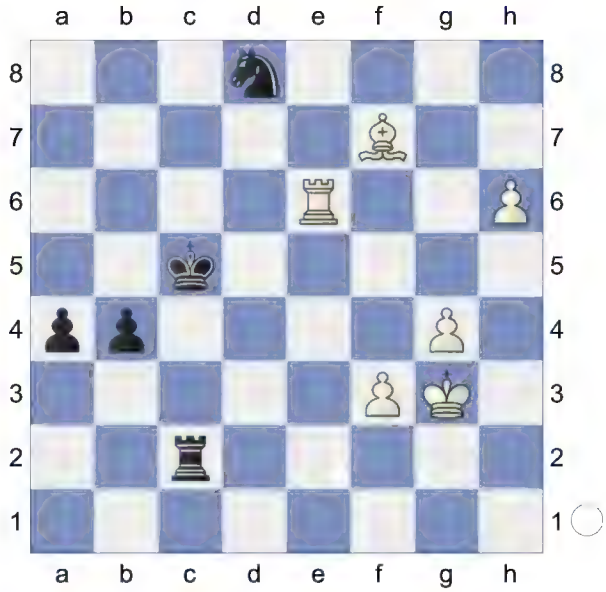
(Diagram)



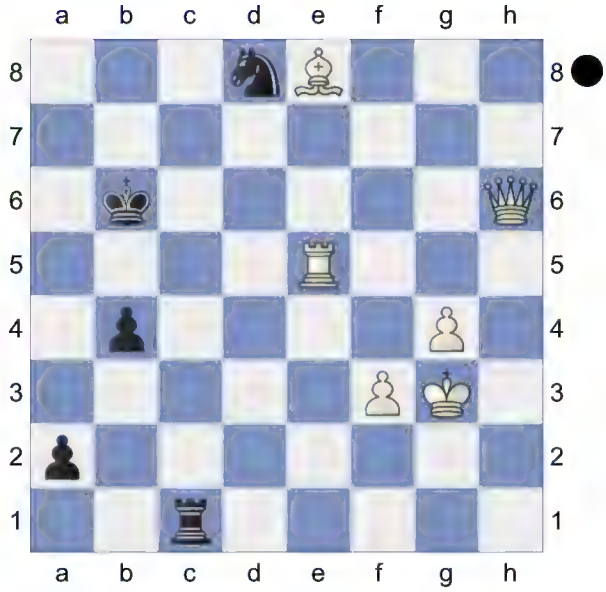
36.Rg4 b5 37.h5 Ne7 3.40/22
[⌓37...Nf8 2.39/22 38.Rxg7 a5]
38.Rxg7 a5 39.Rxh7 a4 40.Rh6+ Kc5 5.87/19
[40...Kc7 4.15/21 was necessary. 41.Bf7 Rxb2]



41.Bf7 Rxb2 42.g4 b4? 6.30/20
[42...Rxc2+ 3.67/20 43.Kg3 Nc6 44.Rxc6+ Clearance, Promotion Kxc6]
43.Kg3 Rxc2 This position might look scary, but it's not, black is too slow.
44.Re6 Nc6 45.h6 Hoping for h6-h7.
45...Nd8



46.Re5+ Kb6 47.Be8 a3 48.h7 a2 49.h8Q Black cannot promote as there is a discovery check. **49...Rc1 50.Qh6+**



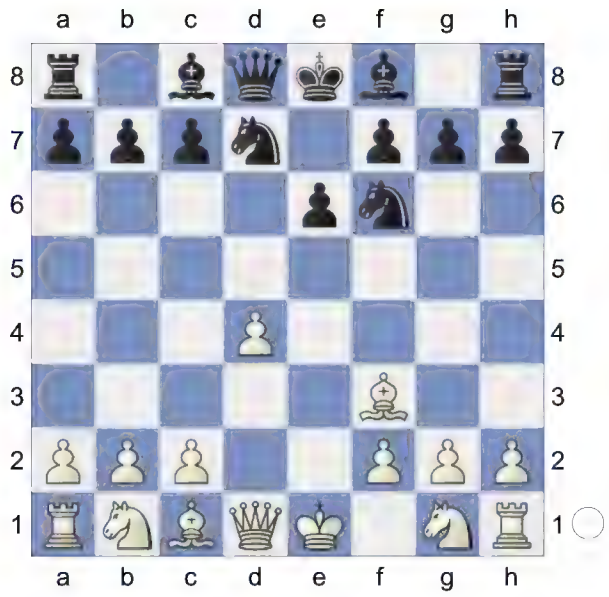
And here Artur resigned as there is a checkmate in 8. You can try finding it if you wish, just turn the engine off and do not cheat. Overall a very smooth game where both players fought very well, but it shows how quickly Onischuk can punish a simple mistake in an endgame that Schlechter French can bring.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.46
1-0

81 **C01**
□ **Baburin,Alexander** **2527**
■ **Juarez Flores,Carlos Armando**
Olympiad-36 Mallorca (5) 19.10.2004
[Mikhalevski,Victor]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'Now this game is a bit different, it's not flashy like the rest but I think it's a solid way of showing the line 5...Nbd7 in the Main Line and covering it. In the end, the point of the study, except to entertain you and show you analysis of someone's games, is to also give you a repertoire in a way and give you a way of playing while also promoting my Schlechter French study which is over here: https://lichess.org/study/B0VjjEXy'
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Nbd7
[5...c5 6.Ne2 cxd4 7.Qxd4 Nbd7 8.Nbc3 Bc5 9.Qf4 Qe7 10.0-0 Bd6 11.Qh4 Ne5 12.Bg5 h6 13.Be4 0-0 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Qxf6 gxf6 16.Rad1 Be7]

(Diagram)



6.Ne2 e5 A rare line of Tarrasch Defence. Instead of attack of the centre Black decides to play on the queenside. Usually it leads to a position with isoliani on d5 after exchange of the c4 and b2-pawns. **7.Nbc3** White prepares b3.
7...Bd6 8.Be3 The position is equal.
[8.Bg5 h6 9.Bxf6 *(9.Bh4 0-0 10.0-0 Re8 11.Qd3 exd4 12.Qxd4 Ne5 13.Bd5 Ng6 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Qxf6 gxf6 16.g3 c6 17.Bg2 Bc7 18.Rfe1 Ba5 19.Nd4 Bd7 20.Nb3 Bxc3 21.bxc3 Rad8 22.f4 Kg7 23.Kf2 Bf5* 1-0 (43) Onischuk,V (2601)-Stocek,J (2568) Mikhail Tal Mem Rapid 2017 (9.3)*)* 9...Qxf6 *(9...Nxf6)* 10.Ne4 Qg6 11.N2g3 -0.31/21 *(11.Nxd6+=* 0.24/17 *Qxd6 12.0-0)* 11...0-0 0.11/20 *(11...exd4; 11...exd4∓* -0.31/21 was preferrable. *12.Qxd4 Be5)* 12.Bh5= Qh7 13.Nxd6 cxd6 14.dxe5 dxe5 15.0-0 Nf6 16.Be2 Be6]
[8.d5 0-0 9.Ng3 Bb4 0.21/17 *(9...Nb6* -0.15/18 feels stronger. *)*]
8...0-0 9.d5N
[9.0-0 Re8 aiming for ...e5-e4. 10.d5? -2.28/20 *(10.Ng3=* 0.08/19

and White has nothing to worry.)
10...e4]
[9.Qd2 Qe8 10.Ng3 exd4 11.Qxd4 Bc5 12.Qd2 Ne5 13.Be2 Bb4 14.0-0 Bg4 15.Qd4 c5 16.Qf4 Ng6 17.Qc7 Bxc3 18.bxc3 Bxe2 19.Nxe2 Nd5 20.Qxc5 Nxe3 21.Qxe3 Qxe3 22.fxe3 Rfe8 23.Rf3 Ne5 0-1 (57) Alhadad,M (1840)-Ljukin,S (2362) Titled Tuesday intern op 23rd May Early blitz 2023 (2)]

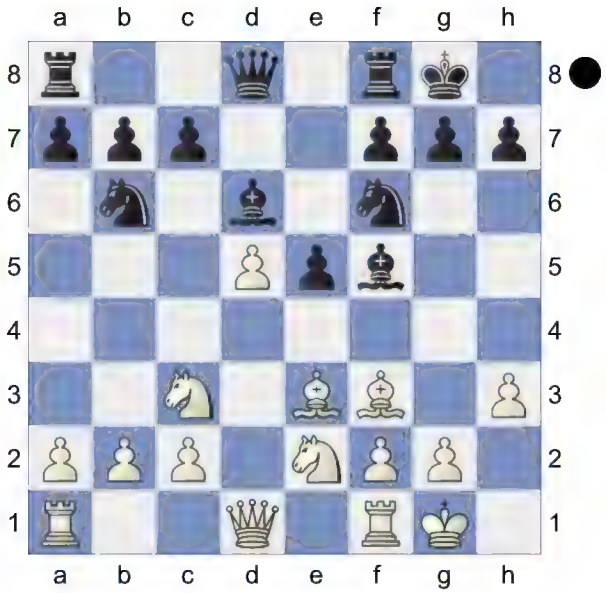
9...Nb6
[9...Re8 And now ...e5-e4 would win. 10.Ng3]

10.h3
[10.0-0 Ng4]

10...Bf5

11.g4 -1.01/21
[11.0-0 -1.36/20 11.Ne2-g3 -0.38

(Diagram)



e4!]
[11.Ng3 Bg6 12.0-0 Bb4]
[White should try 11.Ng3∓ -0.42/22 Bg6 12.h4]

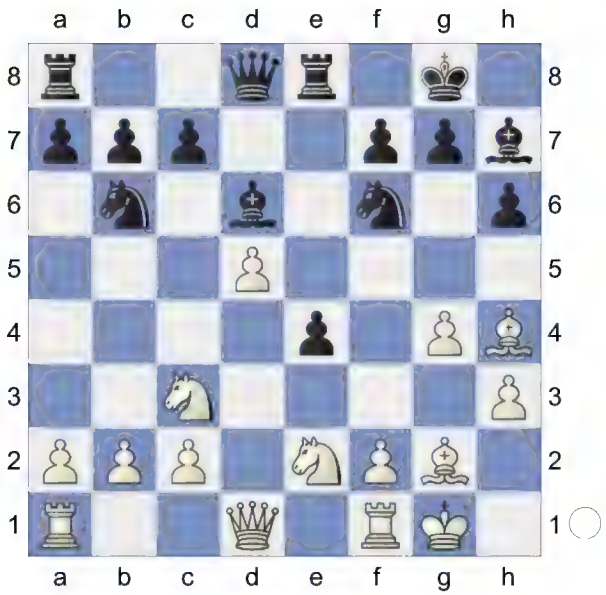
11...e4 **12.Bg2** Now White's plan is either to try to win the b4-pawn by means of ♘e1-c2 and ♖fb1 which also requires preliminary e3 or to trade the b4-pawn playing a3. The first idea is unlikely to succeed as it's too slow. So White has to concentrate on trading the b-pawn.
[12.gxf5 -1.30/18 12.Bf3-g2 -0.80 exf3 13.Nd4 Bb4 *(13...Nbxd5)*]

12...Bg6 After this natural move trades the b4-pawn and obtains small, but stable advantage. **13.Bg5!**
[13.0-0 -1.07/18 13.Qd1-d2 -0.71 Nbxd5]

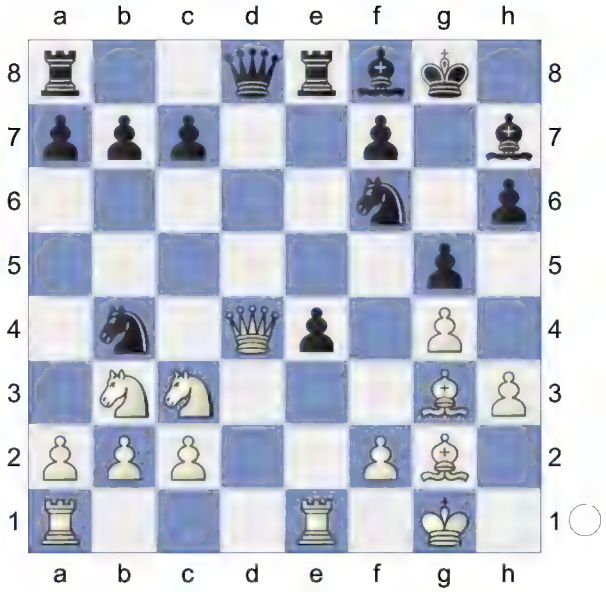
13...Re8 **14.0-0!** Unpinning the a-pawn.

14...h6 **15.Bh4** **Bh7** An original manoeuvre of the rook.
[15...Bc5 -0.75/19 15...Bd6-e5 -1.12 16.Nf4 Bh7 Hoping for ...g7-g5. 17.Nh5]

(Diagram)



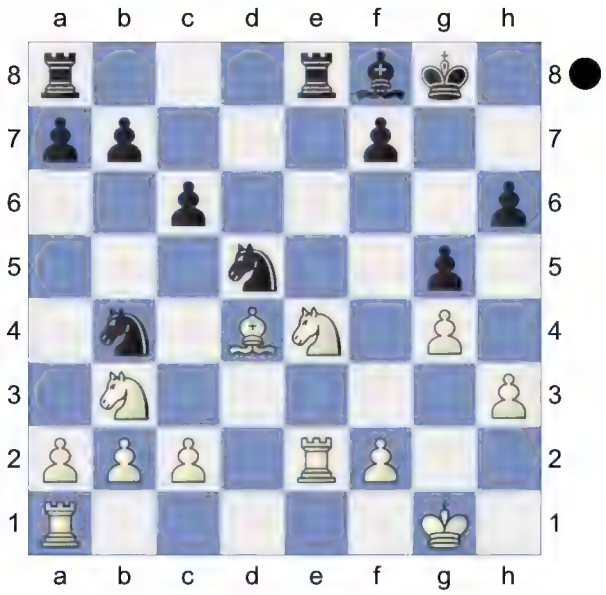
16.Re1
[16.Qd2 Qe7 17.Rad1 -1.26/20 *(⌓17.Rae1 -0.90/18)* 17...Rad8]
16...Bc5 17.Nd4
[17.a3 a5]
17...g5
[17...Nbxd5 18.Bxe4 *(18.Nxe4? Bxe4 19.Bxe4 Nf4-+)* 18...Nxc3 *(18...Bxe4 19.Nxe4 Nf4 20.Bxf6±)* 19.Bxh7+ Kxh7 20.Qd3+ Nce4 21.Rxe4 Rxe4 22.Bxf6 Qxf6 23.Qxe4+ Kg8 24.Rd1=]
18.Bg3 Nbxd5 This is the pawn structure White was striving for. While all white pawns are connected(one "isle"), Black has two weaknesses on d5 and b7(three "isles") **19.Nb3 Bf8**
20.Qd4 Nb4
[20...c6 -0.75/21 20...Bf8-g7 -1.11 ½-½ Matveeva,S-Zhukova,N/Belgrade 1998/CBM 63 ext (36). (36) and White obtained dangerous initiative for the sacrificed exchange. 21.Nxe4!? taking away the a5-square from the black knight is strong. Nxe4 22.Bxe4 Bxe4 23.Rxe4 Bg7 Prevents Ra1-e1 24.Rxe8+! Qxe8 25.Qd3 Bxb2]



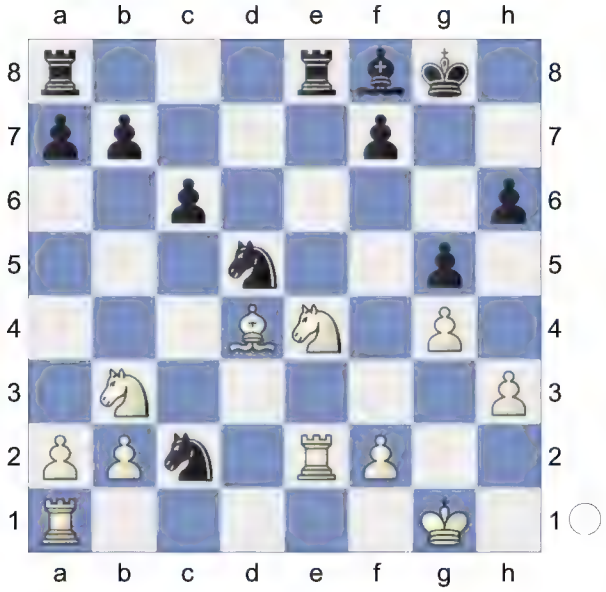
21.Re2 White intends to drive the black bishop out of the b1-h7-diagonal by playing g4 ♗g6 h5. **21...c6** Preparing a retreat to h7. **22.Be5!?** White fixes the kingside, but places one of his pawns on the light square. Now his plan should involve exchange of the light-squared bishop.
[22.Rd1 Qxd4 23.Rxd4 e3!]
[22.a3 Qxd4 *(22...Nbd5* -0.49/21 22...Qd8xd4 -1.18*)* 23.Nxd4 Nbd5 24.Nxd5 Nxd5! 25.Rae1 Nf6]
22...Qxd4 23.Bxd4 Nfd5 24.Bxe4!
[24.a3± -1.47/21 24.Bg2xe4 -0.97 0-1 Bagirov,V-Mikenas,V/Riga 1970/URS-ch (82). (82) Nxc3 was tested yet in the Mikenas' games. After 25.Bxc3± White is also slightly better. Nd5]
[24.Nxe4 Nxc2 leads to transposition. 25.Rxc2?! looks dangerous and was tested only once Bxe4 26.Bxe4! Rxe4]
24...Bxe4 Remove Defender
[24...Nxc3 25.Bxh7+ Kxh7 26.Rxe8 Rxe8 27.Bxc3=]
25.Nxe4 Here we go. White trades the

bishops and thus justifies his play on the kingside.

[25.Rxe4 Rxe4 26.Nxe4 Nxc2]



25...Nxc2



Deflection **26.Rd1±**

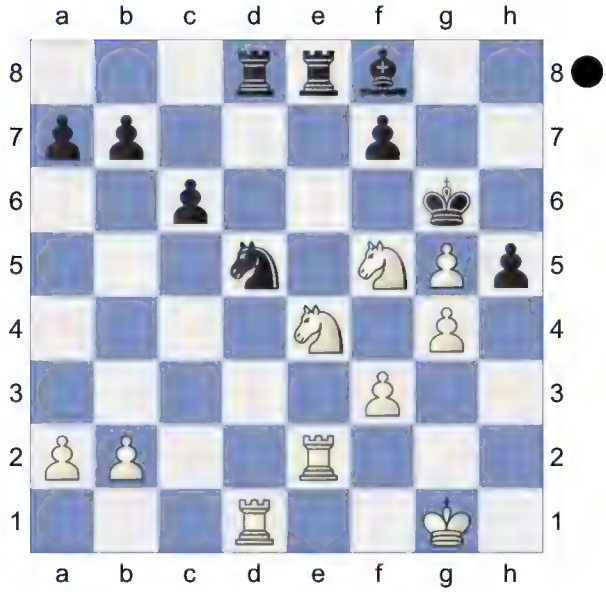
[26.Rxc2 Rxe4]

26...Nxd4 27.Nxd4 Kh7 28.Nf5 Kg6 29.f3 -1.08/22 All black pawns are weak.

[29.h4∓ -0.70/21]

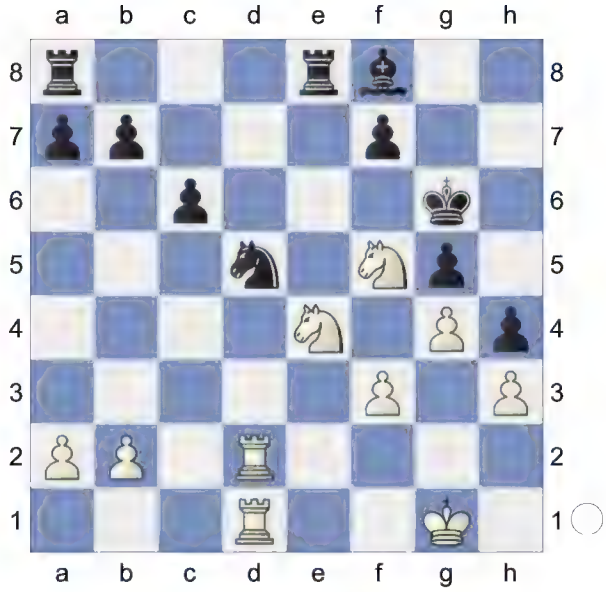
29...h5?!∓ The king is better in the centre and so this decentralization looks weird. **30.Red2** White knights occupy very nice squares.

[30.h4 Rad8 31.hxg5 *(31.Rde1* -2.30/21 31.Nf5-g3 -0.87 *Nf4)*



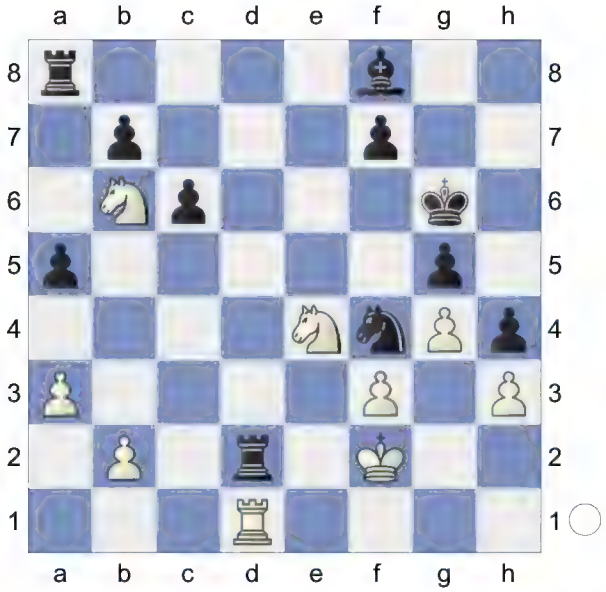
31...Nc3!]

30...h4



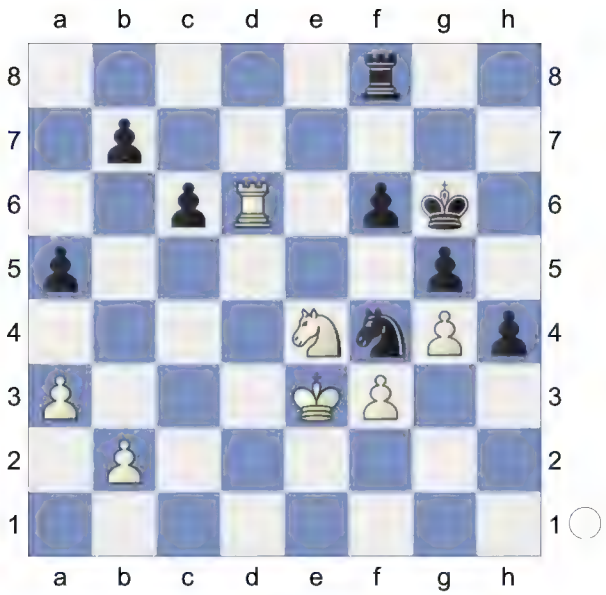
31.Kf2! With a clear intention to simplify the position and thus to exploit Black's weaknesses. **31...Re5 32.a3!** Except weakness of the d5 and b7-pawns Black starts to experience problems with his king. **32...a5 33.Ne3!+-** A good example of Black's hopelessness. Everything is weak and

Black loses one pawn after another. **33...Nf4** Now Black loses both the b7 and d5-pawn. **34.Nc4 Rd5**
[34...Nxh3+ 35.Kf1 Ree8 36.Nb6=]
35.Nb6
[35.Rxd5 cxd5 36.Ne5+ Kg7 37.Nxg5 f6-+]
35...Rxd2+
[35...Nxh3+ 36.Kf1 Rxd2 37.Rxd2∓]

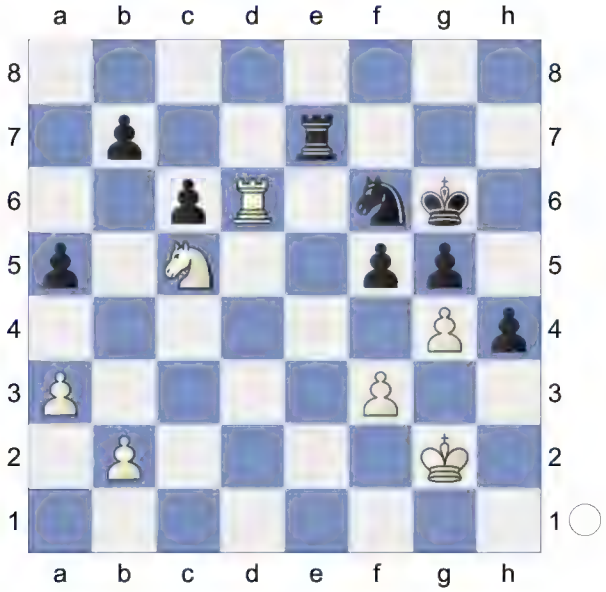


36.Rxd2 The rest wasn't necessary. **36...Re8 37.Nd7 Nxh3+ 38.Ke3 Nf4 39.Nxf8+ Rxf8-+** Endgame. KRN-KRN **40.Rd6+!** A good positional example of Alexander Baburin. Bravo, Alex! **40...f6**

(Diagram)

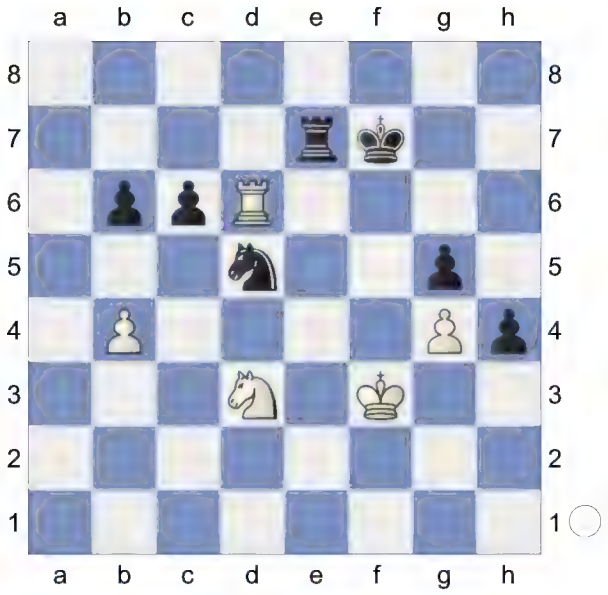


...h4-h3 would now be deadly. is possible, but rather senseless as Black can move the rook, however it sets a nice trap. **41.Kf2? Nd5 42.Rd7 f5** or **43.Rd6+ Nf6+- 44.Nc5** giving up "only" one pawn was the best practical chance, but it would hardly save the game. **44...Rf7** Against Nc5-d7 **45.Kg2 Re7**



Black is clearly winning. **46.b4 axb4** Doesn't help **47.axb4 fxg4 48.fxg4 Kf7 49.Kf3 b6 50.Nd3 Nd5!**

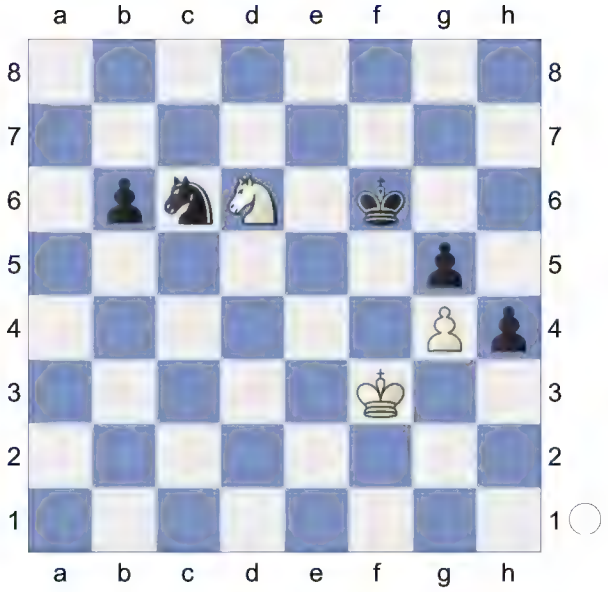
(Diagram)



51.Kf2
[51.Rxc6 -9.34/23 51.Kf3-f2 -4.82 Re3+]
51...Re6! with ♘f4 to follow and White wins the d5-pawn.
[51...Re3 52.Rxd5 Rg3 53.Rd7+ *(53.Rxg5 Rxd3 54.Rh5 Rd4∓)* 53...Kf6 54.b5±]
52.Rxc6 Rxc6 makes more sense since the d5-pawn needs a permanent protection. Immediate **53.Ne5+?** is bad in view of **53...Ke6 54.Nxc6** with the idea of ♘d3 looks more logical. or **54...Kd6 55.Nd8± Ke5**
[55...Nxb4 White must now prevent ... Kd6-e7. 56.Nf7+ Kd5 57.Nxg5]

(Diagram)

56.Kf3 Mikenas' **56...Nxb4** is logical in order to prevent a3. However with accurate play White seems to be able to improve the position. **57.Nf7+ Kf6 58.Nd6 Nc6**



White got outplayed after the opening.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.10 (very precise) .
Loss on time!?
1-0

82 **C01**
Unusual 2nd & 3rd moves
French Defence 06.08.2023
[John Watson]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4
[Incidentally, as Neil discovered when playing in a 1 Nc3 theme tournament, 1.Nc3 d5 2.e4 dxe4 3.Nxe4 Nd7 4.Nf3 Ngf6 is fine for Black- he has a Caro-Kann where he hasn't wasted a move with 1...c6, or a French without 1...e6!!]
1...e6 2.d4
[Various unusual second moves are possible for White. The most important is 2.Nf3 (Note that 2 Nc3 d5 3 Nf3 transposes.) d5
A) Instead 3.e5 c5 *(3...Nh6* avoids French Wing Gambit lines, see Vekemans,D-Van der Lende,I/ Lille FRA 2015. *)*
A1) 4.c3 Nc6 5.Na3 *(* One purpose of White's strange move order could be to cut out the plan of ...Bd7, ...Qb6 and ... Bb5, by waiting until Black plays ...Nc6 before committing himself to d2-d4. This could be achieved by *5.d4* here. *)* 5...Nh6 planning ...f7-f6, 6.Nc2 f6! *(6...Be7 7.d4 Nf5 8.Be2!?* Tu,H-Bao,K/Ho Chi Minh City VIE 2010. *)* 7.exf6 Qxf6 with good counterplay, Cicak,S-Berg,E/Malmo SWE 2006.;
A2) 4.b4 is the annoying Wing Gambit. Black wins a healthy pawn but is deprived of the pressure on d4 which is central to all his plans in the French mainline. Not so aggressive is 4...cxb4 *(4...d4 5.bxc5 Bxc5 6.Bd3* Shimanov,A-Barria Zuniga, D/Titled Tue 2022. *)*
A2a) The other method is 5.d4 Nc6 *(5...f5!?* I prefer retaining the possibility of ...f6, see Berg, E-Tikkanen,H/Falun SWE 2012.*; 5...Bd7 6.a3 Qb6!?* Rotov,I-Short, N/Puhajarve EST 2012. *)* 6.a3 Schulz,M-McDonald,N/Hastings Challengers 2003.;
A2b) 5.a3
A2b1) 5...bxa3 6.d4 Nc6 7.Bd3 Nge7 8.c3 Nf5 Howell,D-Goltsev,D/Titled Tue 2022.;
A2b2) 5...d4! Eminently logical as it prevents White establishing his centre with d2-d4. 6.Bb2 Nc6 7.Bb5!? Bd7 8.0-0 *(8.axb4 Bxb4 9.0-0 Nge7* and Black stood well in Tate,E-Kiriakov,P/ Stratton Mountain USA 2003.*)* 8...bxa3?! *(8...Nge7! 9.axb4 Nf5)* 9.Nxa3 Bc5 10.Nc4 Seps,M-Zatonskih,A/ Germany GER 2012.;
A2b3) 5...Qa5 6.Bb2 Nc6 7.axb4 Qxb4 Novikova,G-Rustemov,A/Titled Tue 2022.;
A2b4) 5...Nc6 6.axb4 Bxb4 7.c3 Be7 One of Black's best systems, and my 'Play the French' suggestion. 8.d4 Nh6!? *(8...Bd7!? 9.Bd3 Rc8 10.0-0 a6 11.Nbd2 Na5* Zvjaginsev,V-Rodshtein,M/ Moscow RUS

2012.*;* I suggest *8...f6)* 9.Bd3 *(9.Bxh6 gxh6 10.Qc1 Rg8!? 11.Qxh6 Qb6* aiming for b2.*)* 9...Nf5 10.h4 *(10.0-0 0-0 11.Na3!* Fenner,M-Lueckner,A/ Lieme GER 2011.*)* 10...h5 11.Na3 Sedlak,N-Dvirnyy,D/ Rijeka CRO 2010.;

B) 3.Nc3

B1) 3...d4 solid, 4.Ne2 c5 5.c3 the most aggressive, *(5.Ng3 Nc6 6.Bb5 Bd7 7.0-0* Alekseenko,K-Martin Fuentes,A/ Toledo ESP 2022.*; 5.d3 Nc6 6.g3 Bd6!* An efficient form of development. Black delays committing himself to setting up a centre with e6-e5, so that as yet White doesn't have anything to undermine with f2-f4. Guseinov,K-Filippov,V/ Moscow RUS 2002. *)* 5...Nc6 6.cxd4 Nf6!? an interesting temporary pawn sacrifice, *(6...cxd4)* 7.e5 Nd7 8.dxc5 Ndxe5 9.Nxe5 Nxe5 10.d4 Bxc5 11.Be3 Bb4+ 12.Nc3 Nc6 13.Be2 *(13.Bd3!? Qa5 14.0-0* Yuan,Y-Xie,G/ Parramatta AUS 2010*)* 13...Qa5 14.Qb3 *(* More ambitious is *14.0-0* Shivaji,S-Shulman,Y/ Lindsborg USA 2004.*)* 14...e5! and Black equalised easily. Bielczyk, J-Socko,B/Lubniewice POL 2005;

B2) 3...Bb4 4.e5! The most critical move in the position. This treatment of the Four Knights was first worked out by IM Chris Baker. c5 5.Ne2 Ne7 6.c3 Ba5 7.d4 Nd7 8.a3 not2deep - sleipner/ Internet Chess Club 2001.;

B3) 3...Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.Ne2 *(5.d4 c5 6.dxc5 Nc6* is by far the most common, but transposes to the Classical, C11. *)* 5...c5 6.c3 d4! *(6...c4 7.d4 cxd3* Dubov,D-Zierk,S/ Titled Tuesday 2021.*; 6...Nc6 7.d4* is [C11], again.*)* 7.cxd4 cxd4 8.Nexd4 Nxe5 9.Bb5+ Nec6 *(9...Ned7 10.0-0* Grischuk,A-Terry,R/Speed Chess Super Swiss 2020.*)* 10.0-0 Bd7 11.Ne2 Be7 12.d4 0-0 Dubov,D-Liyanage,R/Titled Tuesday 2021.]

[An extreme form of the French Advance is the Steinitz Attack named after the First World Champion: 2.e5 As Black has avoided blocking the pawn with 1...e5- almost compulsory in those far off days- Steinitz takes the chance to seize more space. This isn't surprising when you consider that in the King's Gambit White is willing to give up a pawn with 2.f4 to clear the way for the e pawn! d6 The obvious response to White's second move. Black doesn't have this option in the normal French Advance as pawns can't move backwards! Instead *(2...f6* is an odd looking move, but Winawer had faced 2.e5 before so it wasn't just a spur of the moment decision. Steinitz,W-Winawer,S/Vienna 1882.*)* 3.exd6 cxd6 4.d4 Nf6 with equal chances in Steinitz,W-Golmayo Zupide,C/Havana 1883.]

[With 2.f4 White plays the King's Gambit versus the French! d5 3.e5 *(3.exd5* After this exchange a similar query arises to that in the King's Gambit Falkbeer Variation: 1.e4 e5 2.

f4 d5 3.exd5 e4: what is the pawn doing on f4? *exd5 4.Nf3* Loewenthal,J-Williams,E/London 1851.*)* 3...c5 *(3...Nh6?!* was an experiment that met with a nasty end in Glek,I-Bunzmann,D/Clichy FRA 2007*)* 4.Nf3 with a strange Advance Variation, Nc6 5.c3 Nh6 *(5...Nge7 6.Na3 Nf5* transposes.*; 5...Bd7 6.Na3* also, after *Nh6)* 6.Na3

A) 6...Bd7 7.Nc2 Qb6 8.d3 *(8.d4* Picard,R-Brunner,N/Montpellier FRA 2015.*; 8.Rb1 Be7* Wen,Y-Mu,K/Qingdao CHN 2019.*)* 8...f6!? with a tense central situation, and equal chances, Prosviriakov,V-Rambaldi,F/Olympia Conference Centre, Lo 2015.;

B) 6...Nf5 7.Nc2 d4 *(7...Bd7 8.d4 cxd4 9.cxd4 Nb4!?* Zvjaginsev,V-Stupak,K/Moscow RUS 2019.*; 7...h5!?* is not really necessary, Stripunsky,A-Macak,S/King of Prussia USA 2010.*; 7...f6 8.d4 fxe5 9.fxe5* Fogarasi,T-Porat,S/Budapest HUN 2004.*)* 8.Bd3 Be7 *(8...Nh4* Yu,Y-Vitiugov,N/Khanty-Mansiysk RUS 2019.*)* 9.Qe2 h5 10.Be4 Zvjaginsev,V-Volkov,S/Moscow 2023.]

[Truly weird is 2.Bb5 Qg5 *(*more solid is *2...a6 3.Ba4 b5 4.Bb3* Walter,A-Duffau,P/Creon FRA 2005*)* 3.Be2 Qxg2 4.Bf3 Qg6 5.d4 with unclear play. Bettman,J-Barsov,A/Haarlem 1998.]

[2.b3 d5 3.Bb2 is a gambit that seems rather a waste of the White pieces, dxe4 4.Nc3 Nf6 5.Qe2 Be7 *(5...Nc6* Izzat,K-Liu,X/Melbourne AUS 2018. *)* 6.0-0-0 0-0 7.g4 Rzayev,B-Tran,T/Budapest HUN 2011, when Nc6! 8.Nxe4 Nd4 is a good solution.]

[2.c3 often transposes, for instance d5 *(2...c5 3.d4 d5 4.exd5 exd5 5.Nf3)* 3.e5 c5 4.f4 *(*or *4.d4)* 4...Nc6 5.Nf3]

2...d5

[A truly bizarre second move for Black is 2...b5? All I can say is that it worked in Plachetka, J-Herbold,M/Lilie Litomysl CZE 2003.]

3.Bd3

[Or 3.Be3 dxe4 4.Nd2 Nf6 5.f3 Nd5! Kichinski,R-Conrad,B/34th Stamer Memorial SF 2000.]

3...dxe4 Other moves are:

[3...c5! Objectively this is Black's best response- the White bishop is committed to d3 and so Black can't be bothered by a quick Bb5+. The question is whether Black can stomach a French Exchange Variation.

A) White might also consider 4.c3!? e.g. cxd4 *(*Or he can play *4...Nf6* when if *5.e5 Nfd7 6.Ne2 Nc6* we have the 3.Nd2 Nf6 Tarrasch.*)* 5.exd5 Qxd5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.0-0 Nf6 8.cxd4 Be7 9.Nc3 Qd8 with the 2 c3 Sicilian.;

B) 4.exd5 Qxd5?! This is unpromising to say the least. Instead *(4...exd5* is a French Exchange. *)* 5.Nc3! A vigorous reply which is White's best chance for advantage from a practical standpoint. after *(5.Nf3 cxd4* we reach an extremely rare position- including this game I can only find four examples on BigBase 2001. Temporarily at least Black has an extra pawn. The problem is that he may end up in a Sicilian 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 type of position in which he has played ...c5xd4 prematurely.

6.0-0 Nc6 7.Qe2 Bc5 8.Rd1 Nge7 9.c3 e5 10.b4! Bb6 11.b5 Na5 12.Nxe5 with good winning chances for White in Kennedy,C-Pert,N/ Southend 2000. *)*

B1) 5...Qxd4 6.Nf3 *(6.Nb5!?)* 6...Qd8 7.Qe2 and White has the initiative in Loeffler, S-Schebler,G/Katernberg GER 2007;

B2) 5...Qd8 After this cautious retreat, White is guaranteed a persistent, if slight, advantage. Acceptance is critical: 6.dxc5 Bxc5 7.Nf3 Nf6 8.0-0 with a pleasant edge for White in Cruz Ravina,F-Barsov,A/Villa de Roquetas ESP 2008.]

[3...Nc6 A logical riposte as White has left d4 undefended and cannot play Bb5 without loss of time. 4.c3 *(4.Nf3 Nb4 5.0-0 Nxd3 6.Qxd3* Zavgorodniy, S-Oganian,M/Titled Tue 2022. *)* 4...e5!? The most ambitious move. 5.Nf3 exd4 6.exd5! Qxd5 7.0-0 Bd6! 8.cxd4 Nge7 9.Nc3 Qh5 10.Ne4 0-0 11.Nxd6 cxd6 12.h3! An essential move to stop 12...Bg4, White has a definite advantage as his dark-squared bishop rules the roost, Uritzky,M-Rozentalis,E/ ISR ch-T 1999.]

4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 The bishop has been pushed around, but from a strategical point of view it is now well placed in Queen's Gambit or Catalan style. It aims at the b7 square and so stops Black from developing the queen's bishop. White has achieved this without having to weaken his kingside with g2-g3 and Bg2. On the negative side the white knight has been deprived of f3 and the white bishop is a potential target. **5...c5**

[5...Nbd7 6.Ne2 *(6.Nc3 Bd6!?* Onischuk,V-Sumets,A/Lviv UKR 2017. *)* 6...e5 seems to equalise rather easily, *(6...Bd6* transposes to 5...Bd6. *)* 7.0-0! *(7.Nbc3 Bd6* Pardo Simon,D-Delgado Ramos, H/ Barcelona ESP 2011.*; 7.Bg5 h6* Van Foreest,M-Harff,M/Hilversum NED 2022. *)* 7...Bd6 *(7...e4!? 8.Ng3 exf3 9.Re1+ Be7 10.Nf5)* 8.Ng3 0-0 9.Nf5 Re8 see Beerdsen,T-Rozentalis,E/Germany 2019.]

[5...Bd6 6.Ne2 Nbd7 7.0-0 *(7.Nd2 e5!* favours Black, Janaszak, D-Harvey,M/Titled Tue 2022.*)* 7...0-0 8.Ng3 Re8 Ritviz,P-Sengupta,D/Pune IND 2022.]

[5...g6!? 6.Ne2 Bg7 7.0-0 0-0 Pap,G-Jobava,B/Titled Tue 2022.]

6.Ne2 Nc6

[White has positional pressure after 6...cxd4 7.Nxd4 Bc5 8.Nb3 Qxd1+ 9.Bxd1 Bb6?! 10.a4! Ernst,S-Bachofner,A/ Amsterdam NED 2001.]

[6...Be7 7.Nbc3 Qa5!? *(7...0-0* should be equal.*)* 8.Bd2 cxd4!?

Yuffa, D-Bluebaum,M/Moscow RUS 2018.]

7.Be3

[7.c3 cxd4 8.cxd4 Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Nbc3 was nothing for White in Mamedov,N-Martinovic,S/Aix-les-Bains FRA 2011.]

7...cxd4

[7...e5 this solution harks back to 1970s theory and even one 1905 game with Alapin! aiming for ...e5-e4. 8.Bxc6+ bxc6 9.dxe5 Qxd1+ 10.Kxd1 Ng4 11.Nd2 Arribas Lopez, A-Abrahamyan,T/Saint Louis USA 2017.]

[Black has to beware 7...Nd5?! 8.Bxd5! Qxd5 9.Nbc3! Qxg2!? *(9...Qh5!* 0.88/19 9...Qd5xg2 0.37 seems to be the best try, *10.Nb5!* Vachier Lagrave,M-Van der Lende,I/ PRO League Group Stage 2018,. Nb5-c7+ would now be deadly. *cxd4 .; 9...Qd8? 10.dxc5* De Jong managed to catch two players in this line at the Essent Open, see De Jong,M-Archangelsky, M/ Hoogeveen 2000.*)*

10.Rg1

A) 10...Qxh2! ...c5xd4 is the strong threat. 11.Bf4! Qh3 0.57/19 is not so clear. *(*Better is *11...Qh4=* -0.06/20 *12.Nb5 cxd4)*;

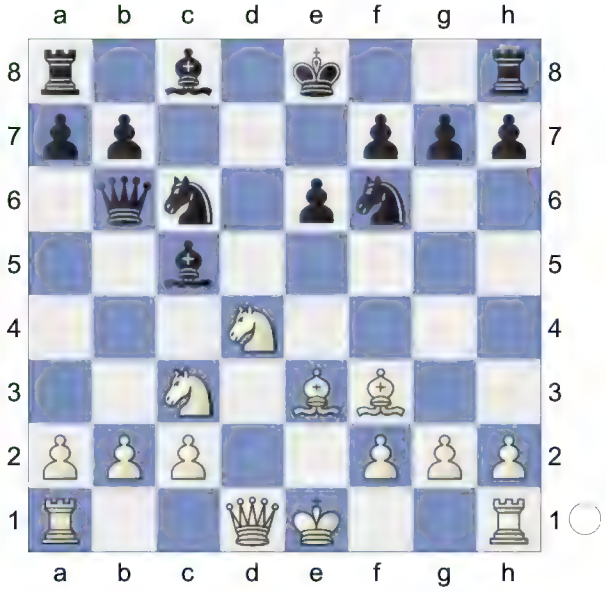
B) 10...Qxh2± 0.37/24 11.Bf4 Qh5;

C) 10...Qf3? 0.93/22 11.Nb5!± with advantage, Rb8 12.dxc5 Nb5-c7+ would kill now.

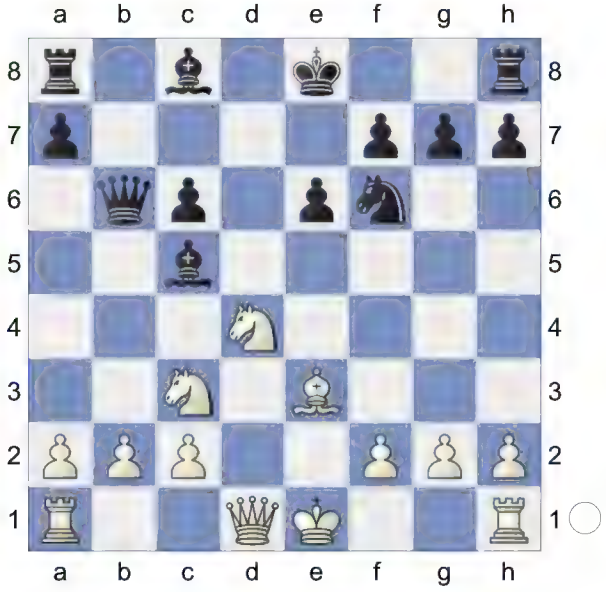
C1) 12...Bd7? 1.71/21 12...f7-f6 0.88 13.Nc7+ 1.18/18 Kramnik, V-Caruana,F/Stavanger 2017. *(13.Qd2+-* 1.71/21 *Rc8 14.0-0-0)*;

C2) 12...f6 13.Nd6+ Bxd6 14.Qxd6 see Kovalev,V-Tabatabaei, M/Moscow RUS 2018.]

[Another poor line for Black is 7...Qb6?! 8.Nbc3! cxd4 9.Nxd4 Bc5? 1.14/23 *(9...Ne5!=* 0.06/21 remains equal. *)*



10.Bxc6+!± bxc6



11.0-0! and White has a clear advantage. Rudolf,H-Rausch,S/ Kreuzberg GER 2006.]

8.Nxd4 Ne5 Black is keen to eliminate the white bishop and so take the pressure off the b7 square, which will

allow her to develop the bishop from c8, but this leads to a fatal loss of time. The position is equal. **9.0-0**

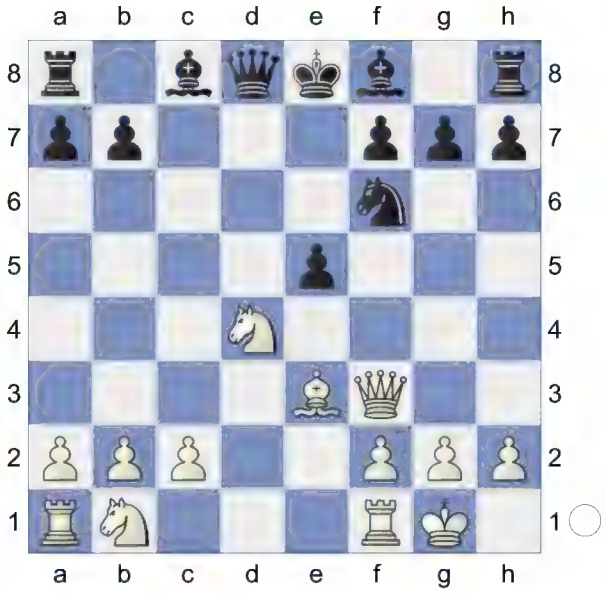
[9.Nc3 is the most popular move here, Bb4 10.Ndb5 Qa5 11.0-0! Kovalev,V-Erigaisi,A/PNWCC Online Blitz 2020.]

[9.Be2 Nd5 10.Bc1 see Admiraal,M-Skembris,S/Spilimbergo ITA 2019.]

9...Nxf3+?!

[I think that 9...Be7! is more accurate, with full equality.]

10.Qxf3 e5



11.Nb5 a6 12.Rd1 Qa5

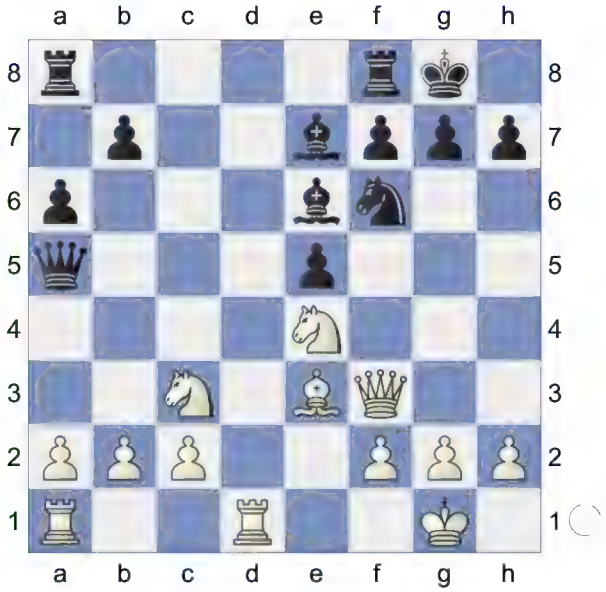
[12...Bd7? 13.Nd6+ Now Black has no answer to White's initiative, Bluvshtein,M-Hoang,T/Budapest HUN 2003.]

13.N5c3 Be7N

[13...Qc7 Vachier Lagrave,M-So,W/Stavanger 2017. 14.Bg5 Be7 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.Nd5 Qc6 17.Qa3 Bg4 18.Nxf6+ gxf6 19.f3 Be6 20.Nc3 f5 21.Rd6 Qc7 22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.Rxd5 Rd8 24.Rad1 Rxd5 25.Rxd5 f6 26.Qd3 f4 27.Qf5 Ke7 28.h4 Qc8 1-0 (40) 4.d4 Nf6 5.Bc4 (2825)-Sudgen,J (2791) CLA-007 VCC 2002 (3)]

14.Nd2 Black must now prevent Nd2-c4.

14...0-0 15.Nde4 Be6



Moskalenko, A-Mozharov,M/Moscow RUS 2018.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.00 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)

83	**C01**
□ **Bluvshtein,Mark**	**2367**
■ **Degraeve,Jean Marc**	**2586**
It Montreal CAN (1)	02.08.2002
[Psakhis,Lev]	

C01: French: Exchange Variation
BCM 1919 p168; Harding: 'BCM 1919 p168' BCM 1919 p168; Harding: 'Norfolk v Hants in SCCU inter-county event' **1.e4** Psakhis Psakhis,L Psakhis **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.c3 Nc6**

[4...dxe4 5.Bxe4 Nf6 6.Bf3 Nc6 7.Ne2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 Qc7 10.Nd2 Rd8 0-1 Noordhoek,H-Mainka, R/Baden Baden op 1993 (27)]

5.Ne2

[5.Nf3 Qb6 6.exd5 exd5 7.Qe2+

Be6 8.Ng5 Nd8 9.Bb5+ Nc6 10.Nxe6 fxe6 11.Qxe6+ Be7 12.Bxc6+ bxc6 13.0-0 Rd8 14.Re1 h6 15.Qg6+ Kd7 16.Qxg7 Kc8 17.Qxh8 cxd4 18.Qg7 Bf6 19.Qg4+ Kb7 0-1 (34) Marquez,H-Mattocio,J Chivilcoy Preparacion 1995 (5)]

5...cxd4N Simple and strong move

[5...Nf6 0.36/19 5...d5xe4 -0.02 6.Bg5 -0.31/19 *(6.e5± 0.36/19)* 6...dxe4 7.Bxe4 Be7 8.Bxf6 Bxf6 9.Bxc6+ -0.48/19 *(White should play 9.dxc5= 0.25/19 Qxd1+ 10.Kxd1)* 9...bxc6∓ 10.dxc5 0-0 0.04/20 *(10...Qxd1+∓ -0.41/20 11.Kxd1 Be7)* 11.Qxd8= Rxd8 12.Nd2 Ba6 13.Ng3 Rab8 1-0 Lukic,L-Ott,R/Winnipeg 2000 (23)]

[5...dxe4 6.Bxe4 Nf6 7.Bd3 Bd7 8.0-0 Qc7 9.dxc5 Bxc5 10.Bf4 e5 11.Bg3 Rd8 12.Qc2 0-0 13.Nd2 Rfe8 14.Ne4 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 g6 16.Nd4 Qb6 17.Nf3 Bd6 18.Rad1 Bg4 19.Rd2 Bc7 20.Rfd1 0-1 (42) Daws,H-Caws,S Norfolk-Hampshire 1919]

6.cxd4

[6.Nxd4 Nxd4 7.cxd4 dxe4 8.Bxe4 Nf6 9.Bf3 Bd6=]

6...Nb4 Unfortunately for White, he cannot now keep his light-squared bishop on the board, which greatly reduces his attacking potential. **7.Bb5+**

[7.e5 Nxd3+ 8.Qxd3 Bd7=]

7...Bd7 8.Bxd7+ The position is equal.

8...Qxd7 9.e5 Ne7 10.Nbc3 Nf5

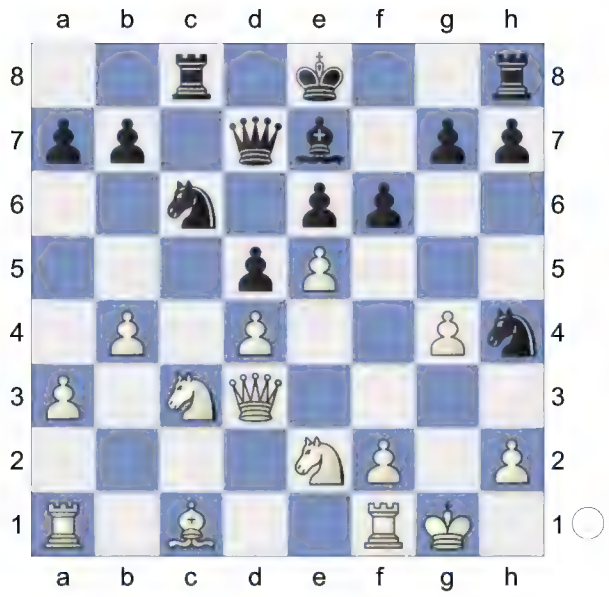
11.a3 Nc6 12.b4 This move may look active, but it weakens White's position on the queen's side considerably, while not bringing any definite benefits

12...Be7 13.0-0 Rc8 14.Qd3 f6 15.g4

[15.f4 0-0]

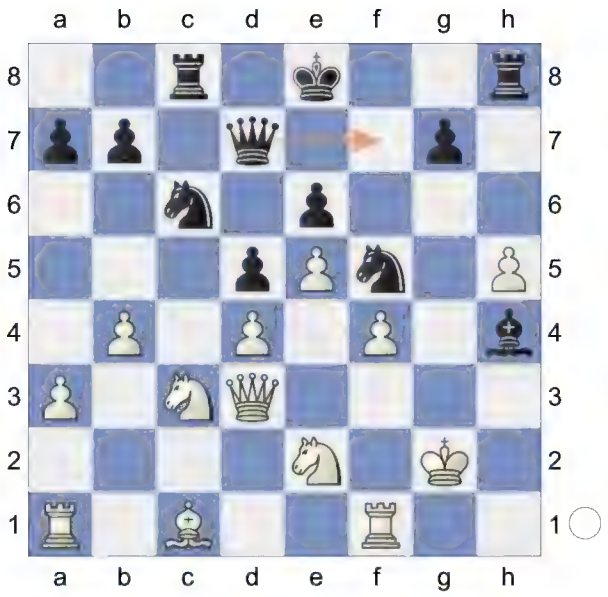
15...Nh4

(Diagram)

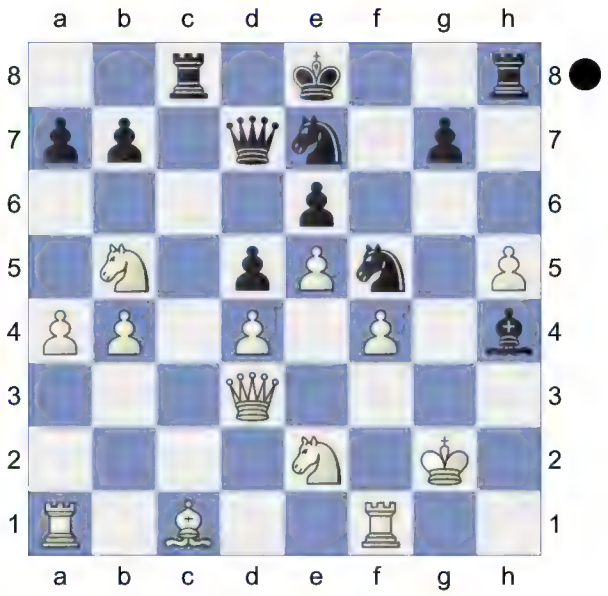


16.f4 An attempt to launch an attack, which is easily suppressed by black
16...f5!
[16...0-0]
17.h3
[17.g5!? h6∓]
17...fxg4 18.hxg4 h5! Exploiting the main drawback of white's strategy.
19.gxh5
[19.f5? -2.09/19 19.g4-g5 -0.19 hxg4 20.fxe6 Qxe6 21.Nf4? -4.42/21 *(21.Bf4∓* -1.58/19 was the only defense. *)* 21...Qh6→]
19...Nf5 20.Kg2
[20.b5 -1.45/21 20.Nc3-d1 -0.55 Ncxd4! 21.Nxd4 Nxd4 △22.Qxd4?? -8.51/19 *(22.Ne2∓* -1.39/18 *Nf5 23.Ng3)* 22...Bc5-+]
[20.b5 Ncxd4! 21.Nxd4 Nxd4∓]
20...Bh4
[20...Bf8!? -0.32/19 20...Be7-h4 -0.73]
[20...Rxh5 is interesting. 21.Ng3 Nxg3 22.Qxg3 Kf7]

(Diagram)



21.Nb5! Nce7!? -0.39/21
[21...Rxh5 -0.39/20 21...Rh8-h6 -0.78 22.Nd6+ Nxd6 23.exd6 Qf7 0.01/19 Against Qd3-g6 *(23...Kf7!∓* -0.86/21 *24.f5 exf5)*]
[21...Rh6∓ -0.76/21 22.Nd6+ Nxd6 23.exd6 Qxd6 *(23...Rxh5? 24.Qg6+ Kd8 25.Qxh5+-)*]
22.a4 -1.42/20
[22.Nxa7 Rc4]
[22.Rh1∓ -0.39/21]



22...a6!∓

[22...Rxh5 23.Nxa7 Rc4 24.Rh1∓]

23.Nd6+ -2.01/22

[23.Na3∓ -1.31/19]

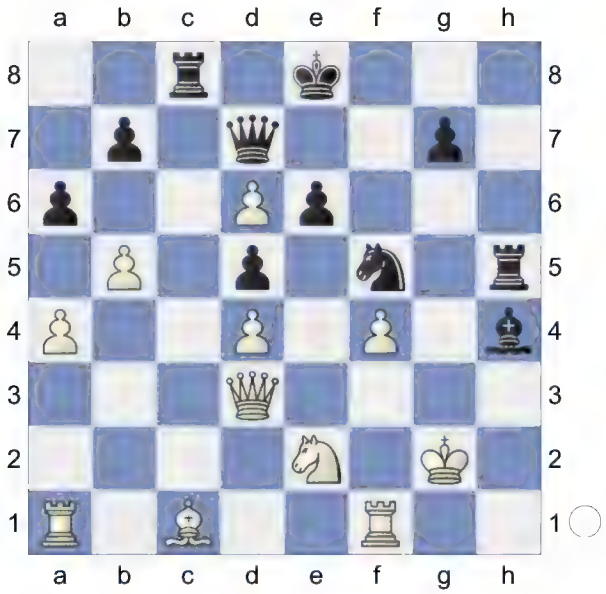
23...Nxd6-+ 24.exd6 Nf5

[24...Qxd6 25.Ba3∓]

25.b5! Rxh5

[Another promising possibility was 25...Rc4!?]

[25...Nxd6 26.bxa6 bxa6 *(26...Rxh5 27.Qg6+ Qf7 28.Qxf7+ Kxf7 29.Ba3±)* 27.Ba3=]



26.bxa6 bxa6

[26...Qxd6 27.axb7 Rb8 28.a5 Rxb7 29.Ba3±]

[26...Nxd6 27.Qg6+ Qf7 28.Qxf7+ Kxf7 29.Ba3+-]

27.Ba3

[27.Qxa6 -2.24/18 27.Ra1-b1 -1.35 e5!? 28.Rf3? -5.56/20 Repels Nf5-e3+ *(28.Kg1 -2.65/19 Nxd4 29.f5 Nxf5 30.Ra3)* 28...Nxd6∓]

27...Kf7 -0.82/18 Chess con chili. Black is more active.

[27...Nxd6? too greedy. 28.Bxd6 *(28.Qxa6?* is the wrong capture. *e5-+)* 28...Rh6 29.Be5+- *(29.Qxa6?! Rc6±)*]

[27...Qxa4 28.Bc5 Qc4 29.Qxc4 dxc4 30.Rfb1∓]

[⌓27...Qf7 -1.56/19 28.Rg1 Rc4]

28.Rfc1 Rxc1

[Perhaps Black should have considered ⌓28...Rc4!? -0.76/19 28...Rc8xc1 -1.18 △29.Rxc4 dxc4 30.Qxc4?? -20.02/20 *(⌓30.Qe4 Nxd6∓; 30.Qe4∓* -0.94/22 *)* 30...Qb7+-+]

[28...Kg8 looks sharper. 29.Rxc8+ Qxc8 30.Rh1 Qe8]

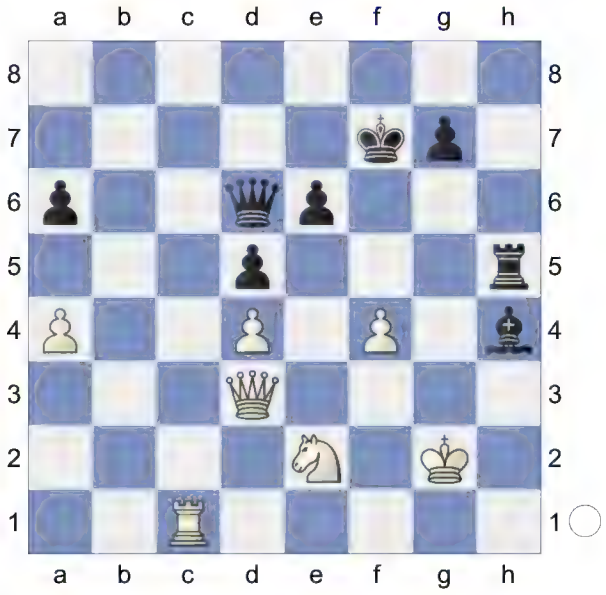
29.Rxc1 aiming for Rc1-c7. **29...Nxd6** -0.57/22

[Better is 29...Kg8∓ -1.13/18 30.Rc7 Qe8 *(30...Qxa4 31.Rc8+ Kh7 32.Rc3∓)*]

30.Bxd6∓

[30.Qxa6? -3.33/22 30.Qd3-f3 -0.72 e5!]

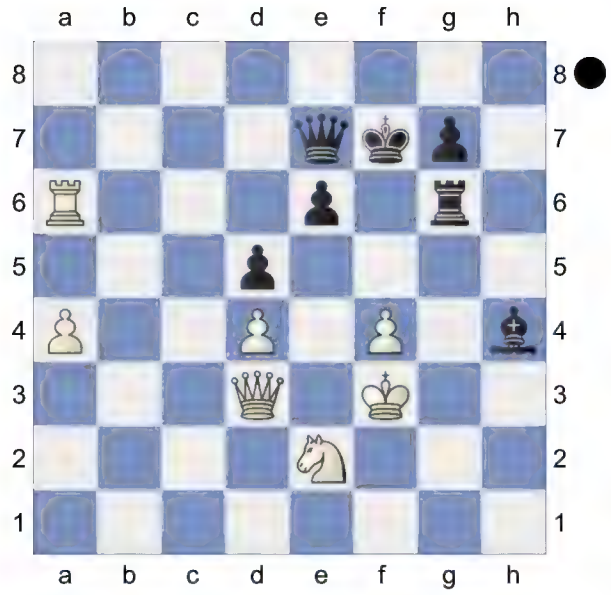
30...Qxd6



31.Rc8 Rh6 32.Ra8 Be7 0.01/21

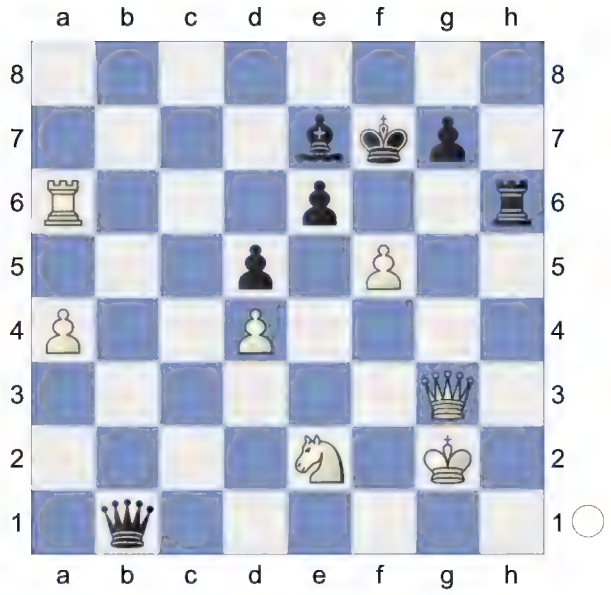
[32...Rg6+! Worth considering 33.Kf3 Qe7 34.Rxa6? -3.09/21 *(34.Rb8∓* -0.49/22 *)*

(Diagram)

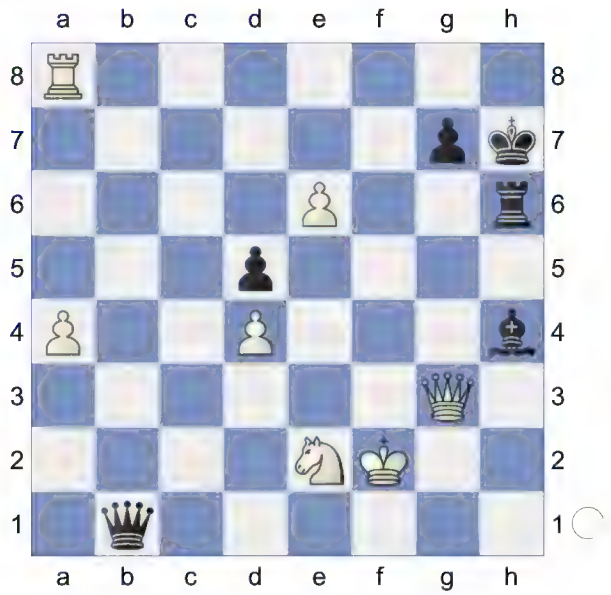


34...Be1! and this position is still in Black's favour, as his king is relatively safe.
]
[Black should try 32...Rg6+∓ -0.49/21 33.Kf3 Qe7]
33.Rxa6= Qb4 34.f5 Prevents Rh6-g6+. Suddenly White is back in the game! **34...Qb8 35.Qg3** -9.71/26 Loses the game. Terrible mistake!
[Simple ⌓35.fxe6+ Kg8! 36.Ng3ä gives to White not so bad game.]
[35.Qf3= 0.01/23]
35...Qb1!-+

(Diagram)



...Qb1-h1+ would now be deadly.
36.fxe6+ Kg8 And now ...Qb1-h1+ would win. **37.Ra8+ Kh7** (-> ...Qb1-h1+) **38.Kf2 Bh4**



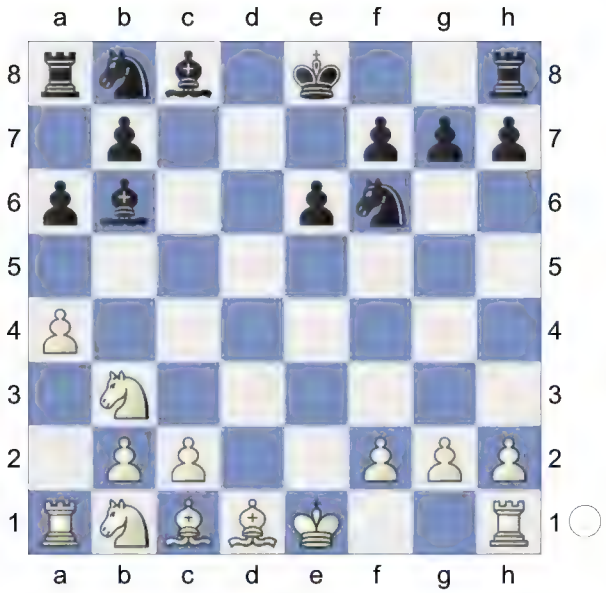
Pin.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.67/ Black=0.14 (very precise)
0-1

84 **C01**
□ **Ernst,Sipke** **2440**
■ **Bachofner,Andreas** **2261**
Lost Boys Open (1) 16.08.2001
[Neil McDonald]

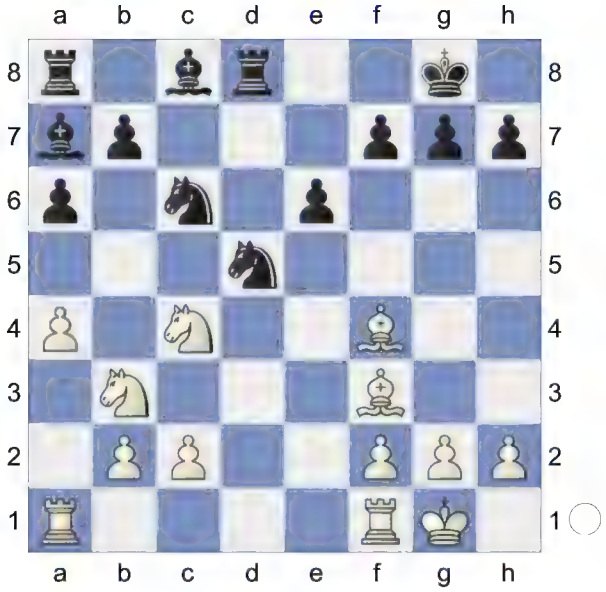
C01: French: Exchange Variation https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent.' https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'We're gonna fast forward a few year and bunch of wins to 2024. A rematch with Bluebaum, so let's see how it went.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**

6.Ne2 cxd4
[6...Be7 7.Nbc3 0-0 8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 f5 *(17...Be3 18.Rd1 Re8 19.Rd7 h5 20.h3 h4 21.Kd1 Bf2 22.Rxa7 Bc4 23.a4 Be3 24.Rd7 Bd4 25.Re1 Ra8 26.Re4 Be6 27.Rdxd4 cxd4 28.Rxd4 g5 29.b3 Kg7 30.Rd6 Kf6 31.Rxc6 Ke5 32.Ke2* 1-0 (49) Onischuk,V (2609)-Bluebaum,M (2646) Titled Tue 8th Oct Late 2024 (4)*)* 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 Bc4 20.b3 Ba6 21.Kd1 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4)]
7.Nxd4N ChessPublishing: 'After'
[After 7.Qxd4 Nbd7! 8.0-0 Bc5 Black already looks at least equal as if 9.Qh4? *(9.Qf4 0-0 10.Nbc3 e5 11.Qh4 Nb6 12.Ng3* 1...e6 - French 3.Bd3-1...e6 - French 3.Bd3 #465*)* 9...Ne5! exploits the bishop on f3.]
7...Bc5 8.Nb3 Hoping for Qd1xd8+.
8...Qxd1+ The position is equal. **9.Bxd1 Bb6** ChessPublishing: 'I think'
[I think 9...Be7 was better as the bishop becomes a target on b6. Then White has a very slight edge after ChessPublishing: 'was better as the bishop becomes a target on b6. Then White has a very slight edge after' 10.Bf3 Nbd7 11.g3 Ne5 12.Bg2]
10.a4! White provokes Black's reply which leaves a hole on b6. **10...a6?!**
[More solid was 10...Nd5 11.a5 *(11.Na3!?)* 11...Bc7]

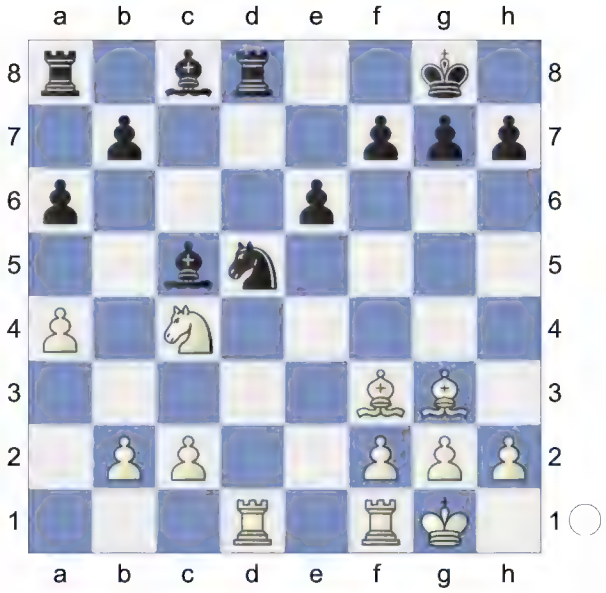
(Diagram)



ChessPublishing: 'More solid was'
11.Na3! 0-0 12.Nc4 Ba7 13.0-0 Nc6 14.Bf3 Rd8 0.88/19
[14...Nb4± 0.43/19]
15.Bf4 Nd5

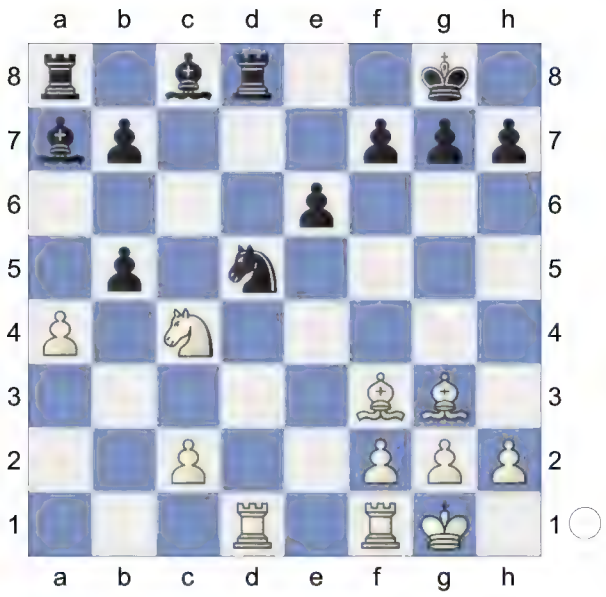


16.Bg3 The opening has been a success for White. All his minor pieces have found safe and strong squares, whereas Black has the problem of the inactive bishop on c8. ChessPublishing: 'The opening has been a success for White. All his minor pieces have found safe and strong squares, whereas Black has the problem of the inactive bishop on c8.' **16...Nd4** 1.55/22
[16...f5± 0.61/18]
17.Nxd4± Bxd4 18.Rad1 Bc5

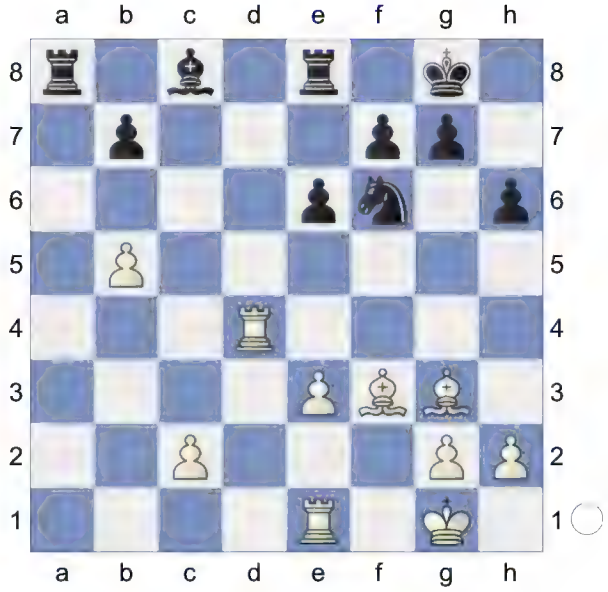


19.b4! White utilises his pawns with gain of time thanks to Black's last move.
19...Ba7 ChessPublishing: 'If'
[If 19...Bxb4 2.15/24 19...Bc5-e7 1.32 20.Nb6 Ra7? 5.98/23 and White has the pleasant choice between *(20...Bd7* 2.24/20 *)* 21.Bb8 and *(21.c4)*]
[19...Be7 20.Bxd5]
20.b5 0.61/23
[20.Nd6± 1.49/21]
20...axb5±

(Diagram)



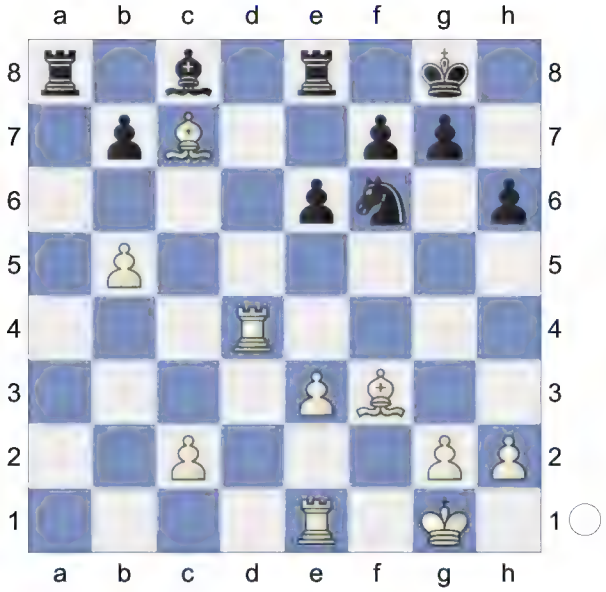
21.axb5 Bc5 22.Rfe1 h6 1.39/21
[⌓22...Ra2 0.85/22]
23.Ne3!± White gains the bishop pair and clears the way to dislodge the knight from d5 with c2-c4 or after the capture next move e3-e4. ChessPublishing: 'White gains the bishop pair and clears the way to dislodge the knight from d5 with c2-c4 or after the capture next move e3-e4.'. And now c2-c4 would win. **23...Bxe3** 1.98/23
[23...Bb4± 1.30/22 was necessary.]
24.fxe3+-
[Inferior is 24.Rxe3 Bd7 25.Bxd5 exd5=]
24...Re8 25.Rd4! 0.68/21 White keeps up the pressure. He isn't willing to free Black's bishop for a mere pawn after ChessPublishing: 'White keeps up the pressure. He isn't willing to free Black's bishop for a mere pawn after'
[25.Bxd5? -0.16/19 25.c2-c4 1.68 exd5 26.Rxd5 Be6 0.42/20 However, this is exactly what happens in the game later on! ChessPublishing: 'However, this is exactly what happens in the game later on!' *(26...Ra2= -0.02/22)*]
[Better is 25.c4!+- 1.83/21 Nb6 26.c5]
25...Nf6 1.50/24
[25...Nc3± 0.68/21]



26.Be5 1.01/22
[⌓26.Red1! 1.50/24]
26...Nd7 2.03/23
[26...Ra3± 1.01/22 keeps fighting.]

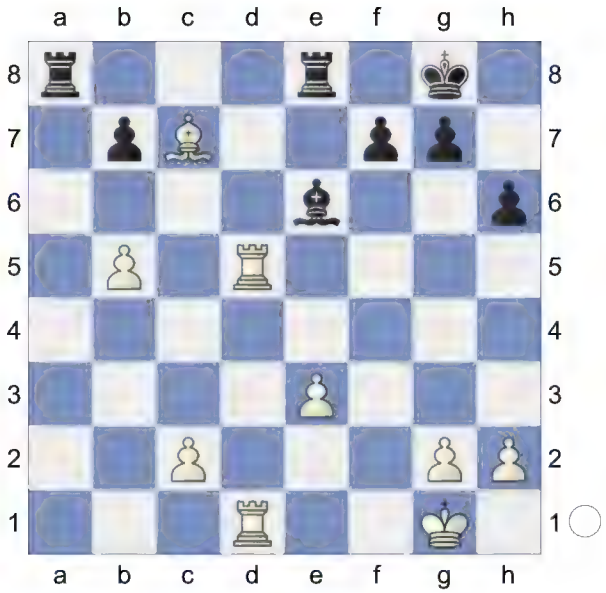
27.Bc7? 0.44/23 ChessPublishing: 'Much more convincing was'. A strong

pair of Bishops.
[Much more convincing was 27.Bxb7! Bxb7 28.Rxd7 Be4 29.b6 1.33/20 winning. *(29.Rd4+- 1.94/22 Bb7 30.Bc7)*]
[27.Bxb7!+- 2.03/23 Bxb7 28.Rxd7]
27...Nf6 1.17/21
[27...e5± 0.44/23 28.Rd2 Nf6]

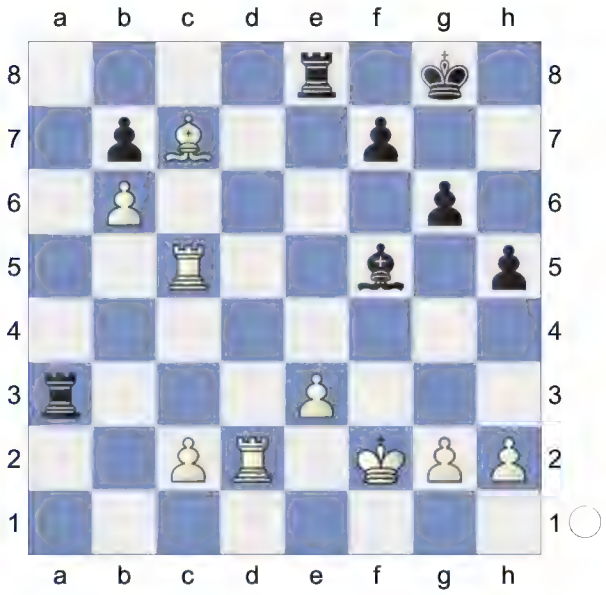


Suddenly Black threatens 28...e5 freeing his position. **28.Red1!±** To answer 28. .. e5 with 29.Rd8. However after Black's reply White has nothing better than to free Black's queen's bishop for a pawn after all. ChessPublishing: 'To answer 28...e5 with 29.Rd8. However after Black's reply White has nothing better than to free Black's queen's bishop for a pawn after all.'. White is much more active. **28...Nd5 29.Bxd5** 0.05/20
[White should play 29.b6± 1.15/22]
29...exd5= 30.Rxd5 Be6 0.60/21
[30...Rxe3!?]
[30...Rxe3= 0.06/24 31.Rc5 *(31.Rd8+ Kh7=)* 31...Be6]

(Diagram)



31.Rc5± Bg4 Black now makes a series of poor moves and loses quickly. If he sat tight he might have held the draw. ChessPublishing: 'Black now makes a series of poor moves and loses quickly. If he sat tight he might have held the draw.' **32.Rd3 g6?** 1.03/21
[32...Be2± 0.66/21 deserves consideration. 33.Rdc3 Ra2]
33.Kf2± Bf5 34.Rd2 h5 35.b6 Ra3



36.Be5 Prevents Ra3xe3. **36...Ra6 37.Bd4 Rc8?** 7.49/21
[37...Rxb6? loses. 38.Rxf5 Rd8

39.Rc5+-]
[37...Rd8± 1.13/23]
38.Rxc8++- Bxc8 39.Bf6

Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.27 (precise)
1-0

85 **C01**
□ **De Jong,M** **2276**
■ **Archangelsky,Mikhail** **2430**
Essent Open Hoogeveen NED (1)
[Neil McDonald]

C01: French: Exchange Variation https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'We're gonna skip a few games where Onischuk won as the players he played were far beyond him and they brought nothing new, nothing extremely exciting. This game though is a Short n' Sweet. It's the European Blitz Championship of 2016. It was the day when Onischuk chose violence.' **1.e4** ChessPublishing **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**

(Diagram)

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 Nd5 0.35/21
[7...cxd4= -0.09/20 8.Nxd4 Ne5]
8.Bxd5± Qxd5 White has an edge.
9.Nbc3! De Jong managed to catch two players in this line at the Essent Open. It virtually wins a pawn by force. ChessPublishing: 'De Jong managed to catch two players in this line at the Essent Open. It virtually wins a pawn by force.' **9...Qd8N** 1.07/21 Black has played a series of natural moves but is suddenly in trouble! ChessPublishing: 'Instead some rounds later in the same tournament'

[Paul Morphy used to play 3.Bd3 back in the 1850s. I could imagine a game Morphy-AN Other going 9...Qxg2? 10.Rg1 Qxh2 Threatens to win with ...c5xd4. 11.Bf4! Qh5 ...c5xd4 is the strong threat. 12.Nb5 And now Nb5-c7+ would win. Kd7? 4.71/20 *(12...f6!=* 0.29/21 and Black stays safe.; *12...Ke7 13.Bd6+ Kf6 14.dxc5 e5 15.Nc7 Bxd6 16.Qxd6+ Be6 17.Nd5+* 1-0 Onischuk,V (2601)-Martinovic,S (2550) European Blitz 2016 (12.24)) 13.dxc5++- Qd5 14.Nec3! *(14.Nc7* wins a rook, but

this is prettier....) 14...Qxd1+ 15.Rxd1+ Ke7 16.Bd6+ Kf6 17.Ne4+ Kf5 18.Rg5+! Kxe4 19.Nc3+ Kf3 20.Rd3#]

[Instead some rounds later in the same tournament 9...Qd7 0.95/21 9...Qd5xg2 0.44 10.dxc5 Ne5 11.Qd4! to stop Nc4 ideas. ChessPublishing: 'to stop Nc4 ideas.'. Repels Ne5-c4 f6 12.Qe4 *(12.0-0-0!* looks even stronger.*)* 12...Be7 13.0-0 left White a useful pawn up in De Jong-Peng Zhaoquin, Hoogeveen Essent op 2000. However, perhaps De Jong couldn't believe his luck as he later blundered and lost! ChessPublishing: 'left White a useful pawn up in De Jong-Peng Zhaoquin, Hoogeveen Essent op 2000. However, perhaps De Jong couldn't believe his luck as he later blundered and lost!']

[9...Qxg2± 0.54/24 10.Rg1 Qxh2]

10.dxc5± Qxd1+

[Black cannot regain his pawn for if 10...Qa5 11.a3! etc.]

ChessPublishing: 'Black cannot regain his pawn for if' **11.Rxd1 Bd7 12.Nb5** 0.80/22

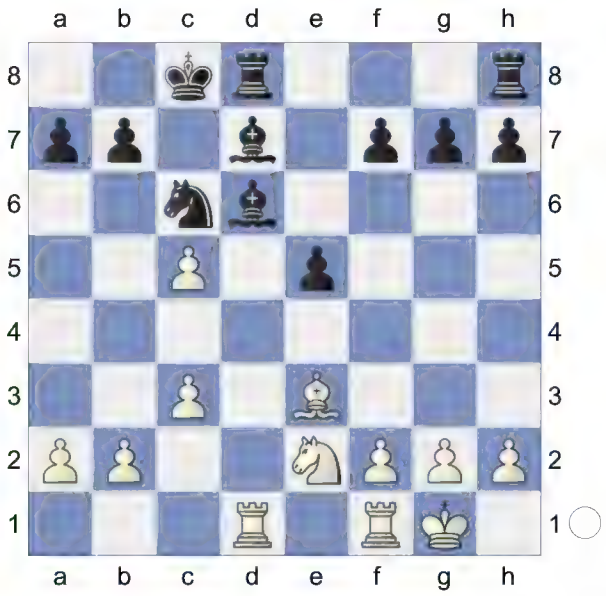
[⌓12.Ne4 1.24/21]

12...0-0-0 1.19/20 Black is weak on the dark squares

[⌓12...Rc8 0.80/22]

13.c3 White has more active pieces.

13...e5 14.0-0 Be7 15.Nd6+ Bxd6



16.cxd6 Be6 17.b3! b6 18.Rd2 Rd7

19.c4 ChessPublishing: 'Correct was'

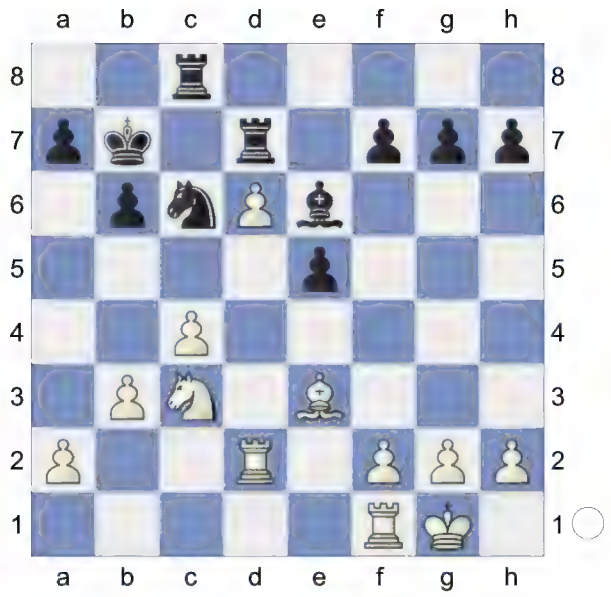
[Correct was 19.f4! opening lines for if ChessPublishing: 'opening lines for if' e4? 4.80/23 *(⌓19...exf4* 1.61/22 *20.Bxf4 f6)* 20.f5 wins the bishop.]

19...Kb7 20.Nc3

[20.f4!]

20...Rc8

(Diagram)



21.Rfd1 f5 22.f4? 1.01/24 A useful reminder that chess is all about timing as here this move is bad! White should have settled for ChessPublishing: 'A useful reminder that chess is all about timing as here this move is bad! White should have settled for'

[22.f3 when he still should win. ChessPublishing: 'when he still should win.']

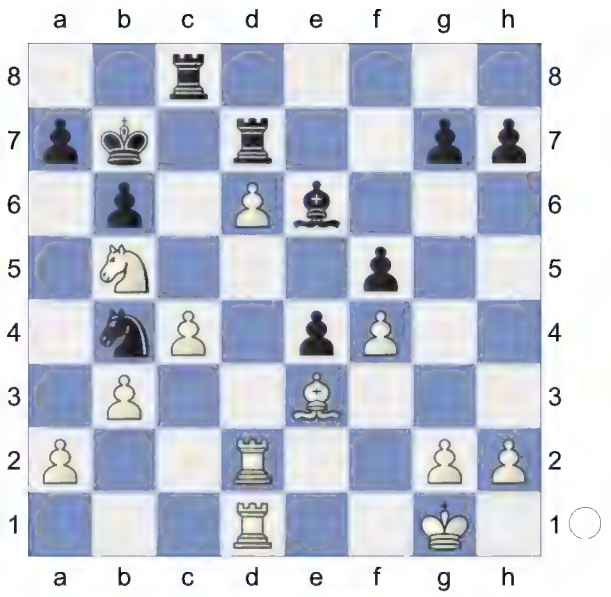
[22.f3+- 1.74/23]

22...e4 White's last move has presented Black with a protected passed pawn and a beautiful square on d3 for his knight. ChessPublishing: 'White's last move has presented Black with a protected passed pawn and a beautiful square on d3 for his knight.' **23.Nb5?** ChessPublishing: 'He should play'

[He should play 23.Ne2! 0.77/23 23.Nc3-a4 1.15 Nb4 24.Nc1 intending a2-a3.]

23...Nb4

(Diagram)



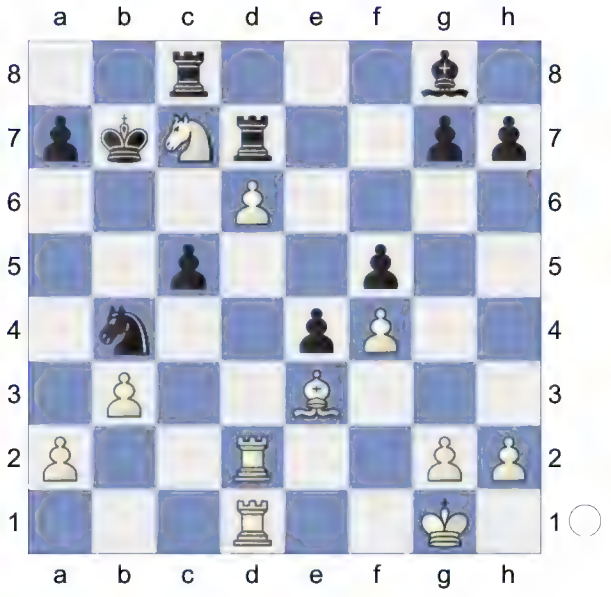
24.Nc7 -0.01/23

[24.Nd4!± 0.88/22 Rxd6 25.Nb5 Discovered Attack Rxd2 26.Rxd2]

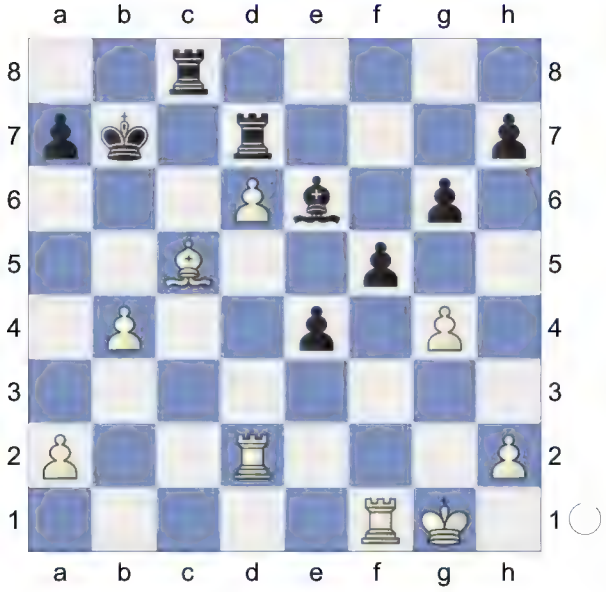
24...Bg8 0.47/23

[24...Bf7= -0.01/23 is more appropriate.]

25.c5 Returning the extra pawn, but in any case d6 would have been impossible to defend after 25... Nd3 ChessPublishing: 'Returning the extra pawn, but in any case d6 would have been impossible to defend after 25... Nd3' **25...bxc5**

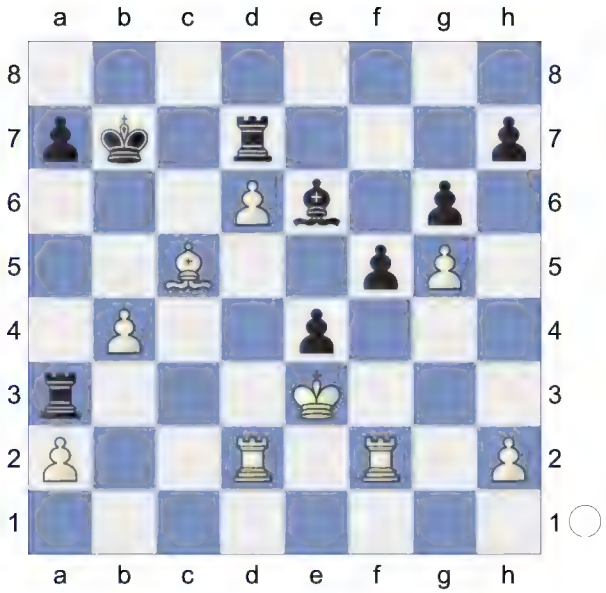


26.Bxc5 Nd3 27.b4 Nxf4 28.Rf1 Ne6 29.Nxe6 Bxe6 Now it looks as if Black should hold the draw, but he eventually got ground down. ChessPublishing: 'Now it looks as if Black should hold the draw, but he eventually got ground down.'
30.g4 g6!

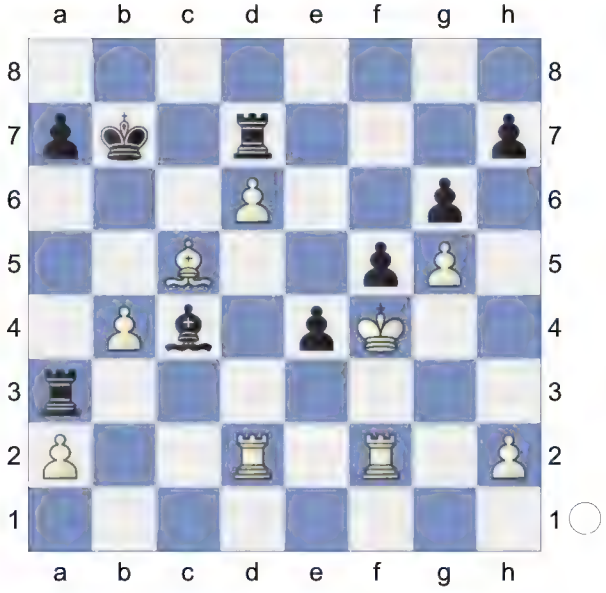


31.g5 -0.59/22
[31.Rd4= 0.02/19]
31...Rf8 0.25/20
[31...Bc4∓ -0.59/22 32.Rc1 Bd3]
32.Rf4 Rc8 33.Kf2 -0.79/22
[33.Rf1= 0.01/21]
33...Rc6 0.62/24
[33...h6∓ -0.79/22 34.h4 *(34.gxh6? g5-+)* 34...hxg5 35.hxg5 Rh7]
34.Ke3± Ra6 35.Rff2 Ra3+

(Diagram)

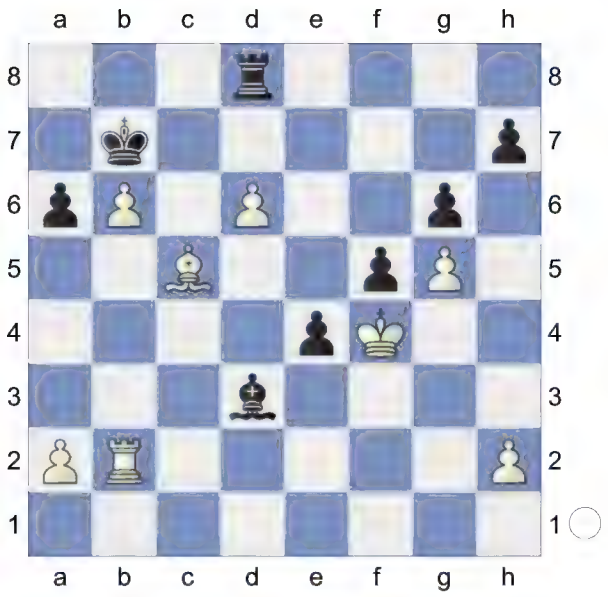


36.Kf4 Bc4



37.b5 -0.01/23 **Rd3** 0.58/22
[37...Rh3!= -0.01/23]
38.Rxd3 Bxd3 2.28/25 Endgame. KRB-KRB
[38...exd3± 0.73/25 39.a4 a6]
39.Rb2+- Rd8 40.b6 a6

(Diagram)

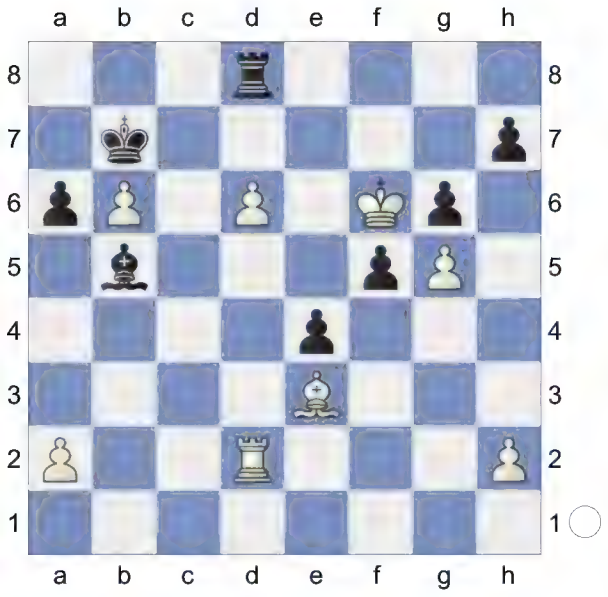


41.Ke5 Hoping for Ke5-e6. **41...Bb5 42.Be3 Bc6 43.Rc2 Re8+ 44.Kf6 Rd8 45.Rd2** 0.01/25

[White should try 45.Ke7+- 1.61/27 Re8+ 46.Kf6]

45...Bb5? 1.54/26

[45...f4!= 0.01/25 46.Bxf4 *(46.Bc5 e3-+)* 46...Rf8+ *(46...Kxb6 47.Ke5+-)* 47.Kg7 Rxf4]

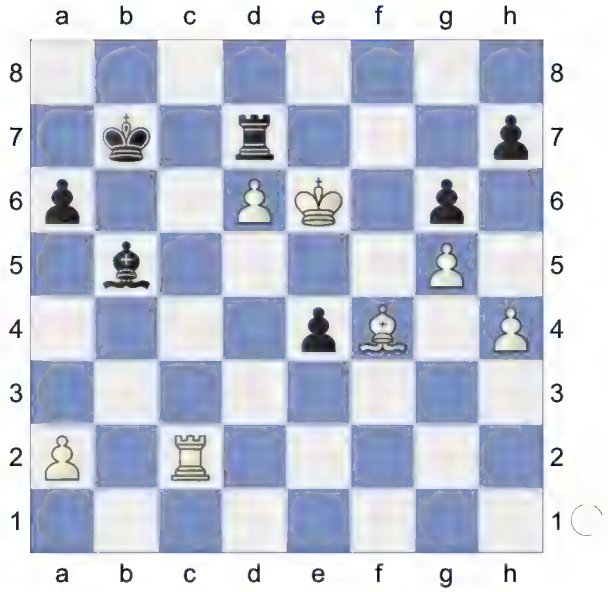


46.h4 Rd7 1.72/23

[46...Bc6± 1.27/24 was necessary.]

47.Ke6 f4 48.Bxf4 Kxb6 49.Rb2 Kc6 50.Rc2+ Kb7 3.92/27

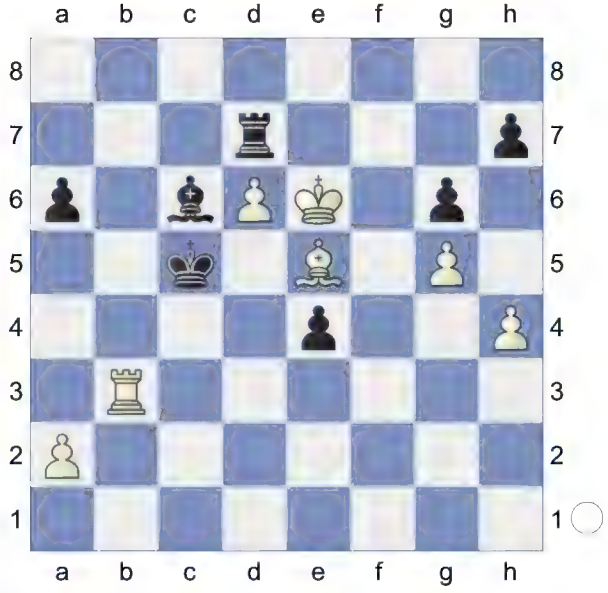
[⌓50...Kb6 2.56/24 51.Rc3 Kb7]



51.Rc5 Black must now prevent Rc5xb5+! **51...Bc6 52.Rc3 Bb5 53.Be5 Kb6 54.Re3 Bc6?** 4.83/30

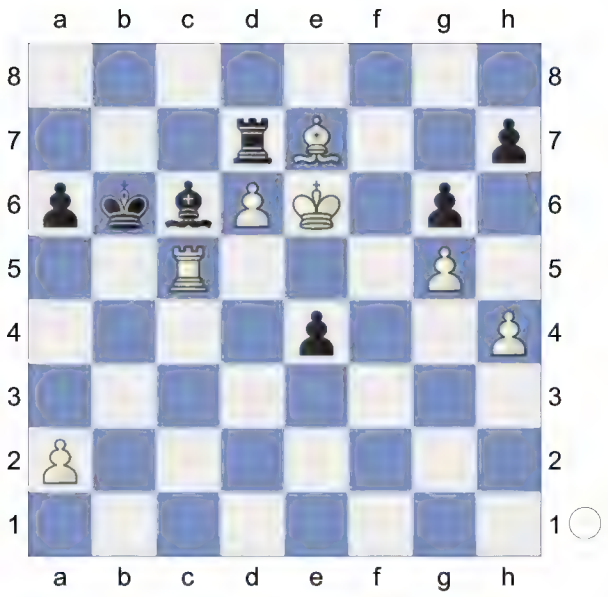
[54...Kc6 2.77/23 is a better defense. 55.Rc3+ *(55.Rxe4 a5+-)* 55...Kb7]

55.Rb3+ Kc5

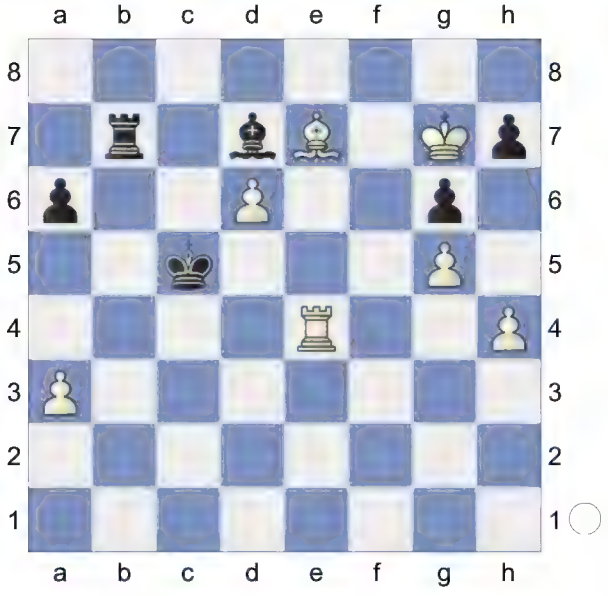


56.Rc3+ Kb6 57.Bd4+ Kb7 58.Bf6 Bb5 59.Rc5 Strongly threatening Rc5xb5+! **59...Bc6 60.Be7 Kb6**

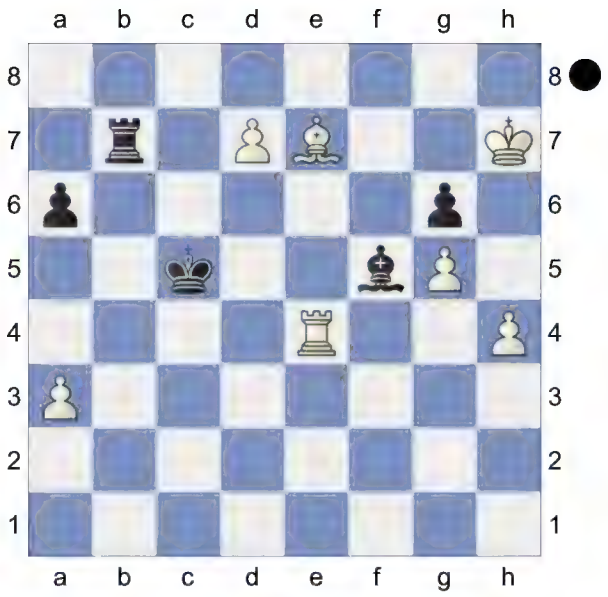
(Diagram)



61.Re5 Kb7 62.a3 Kb6? 7.09/25
[62...Kb8 3.87/24 63.Rc5 Ba4]
63.Kf7 White is clearly winning. **63...Rb7**
64.Kg7 Bd7 6.95/25
[⌓64...Be8 4.37/20 65.Kxh7 *(65.Rxe4 Kc6+-)* 65...Kc6 66.Rxe4 Kd7]
65.Rxe4 Kc5 7.68/24
[⌓65...Kc6 4.97/23 66.Rc4+ *(66.Kxh7 Bf5+-)* 66...Kd5]



66.Kxh7 Bf5 67.d7+
(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.33
1-0

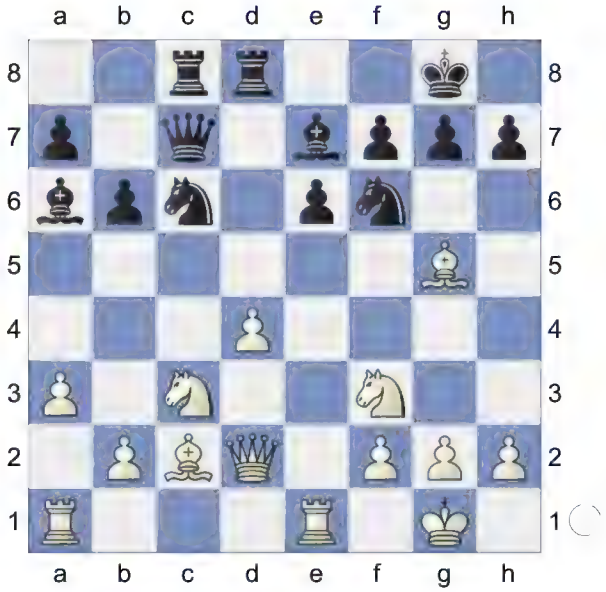
86 **D40**
□ **Preziuso,Toni** **2306**
■ **Krause,Matthias** **2003**
corr 22.SFSM Vorgruppe 22-04(Schweiz)
[Kitty Kat]

D40: Queen's Gambit Declined: Semi-Tarrasch with 5 e3
Staunton, ILN 2 Aug 1873; Harding: 'ILN 2 Aug 1873; 'An interesting little game played...by correspondence'' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bd3 c5**

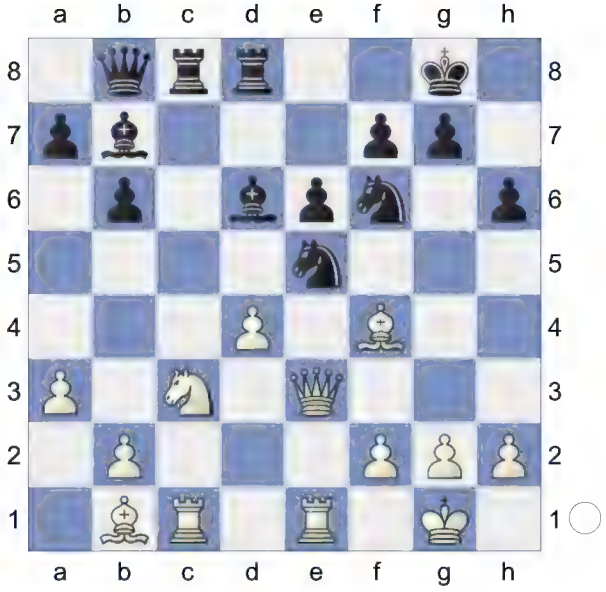
(Diagram)

6.c3 Nc6 7.Nf3 cxd4 8.cxd4 Be7N
[8...Bd6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Bg5 Nb4 11.Nc3 Nxd3 12.Qxd3 b6 13.Rfe1 Bb7 14.Ne5 h6 15.Bh4 Be7 16.Rad1 Nd5 17.Bg3 Nxc3 18.bxc3 Qd5 19.f3 Qxa2 20.Ng4 Rfd8 21.Ra1 Qb3 22.Re5 Rd5 23.Rae1 ½-½ (28) Thorold,E-Halford,J Halford-Thorold match 1873 Rc8 24.Rxe6 fxe6 25.Qg6 Rf8 26.Nxh6+ Kh8 27.Nf7+ Kg8 28.Nh6+ ½-½ Zumholz,J-Herman,J Berlin-ch U18 2006]
9.0-0 0-0 10.Nc3 b6

11.a3 Bb7 12.Bc2 Ba6 13.Re1 Qc7
The position is equal. **14.Bg5 Rac8 15.Qd2 Rfd8**



16.Rac1 Qb8 17.Bb1 Bb7 18.Qe3 h6 19.Bf4 Bd6
[19...Qa8!?]
20.Ne5 Nxe5



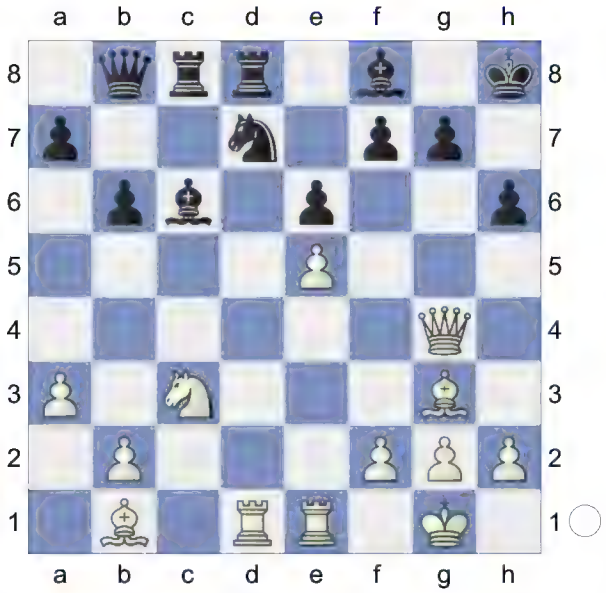
21.dxe5 Bc5 22.Qh3 Bf8 0.47/22
[22...Bd4= 0.08/20]
23.Bg3 -0.01/21
[23.exf6 Qxf4 24.fxg7 Bxg7∓]
[23.Bxh6 gxh6 24.exf6 Qf4]
[23.Bg5!± 0.47/22 Rc5 *(23...hxg5?*

24.exf6 g6 25.Bxg6+-) 24.Bxf6 gxf6 25.exf6 *(25.Qg4+ Bg7∓)*]

23...Nd7 24.Qg4 Kh8 0.84/18

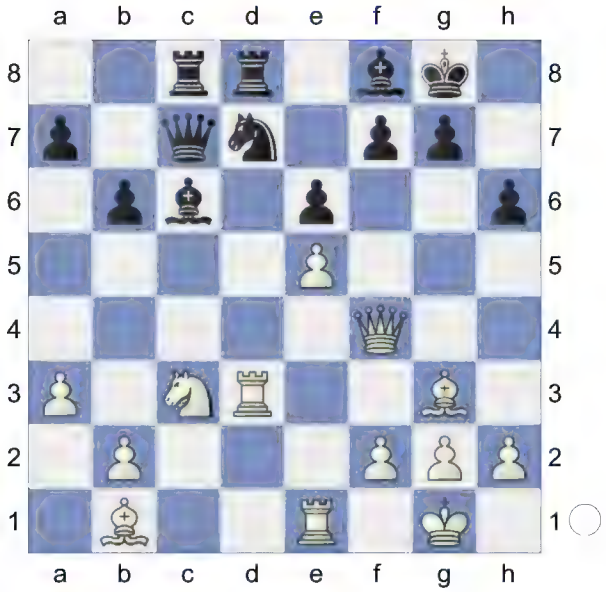
[24...b5= -0.01/18]

25.Rcd1± Bc6



26.Qf4 Kg8 27.Rd3 Strongly threatening Bg3-h4. **27...Qc7** 1.04/20

[27...Nc5± 0.50/19 28.Rde3 Rd7]

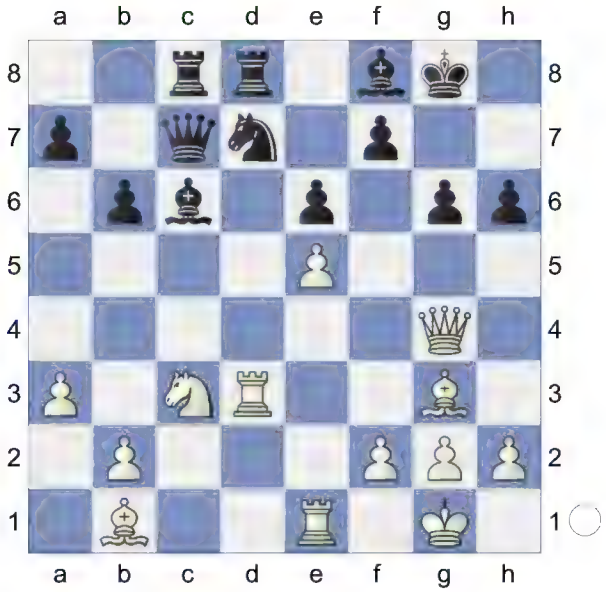


28.Qg4 -0.07/20

[28.Bh4!± 1.04/20]

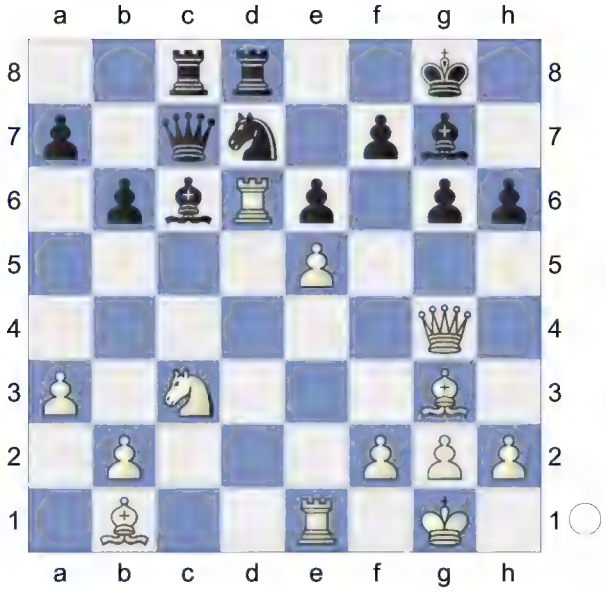
28...g6 0.29/19

[28...Nc5 -0.07/20 should be considered. 29.Rde3 g6]



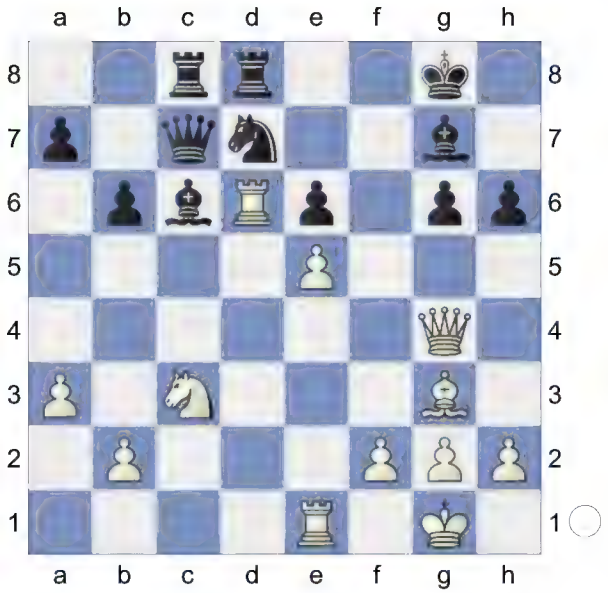
29.Rd6!= Bg7

[29...h5 30.Qf4]



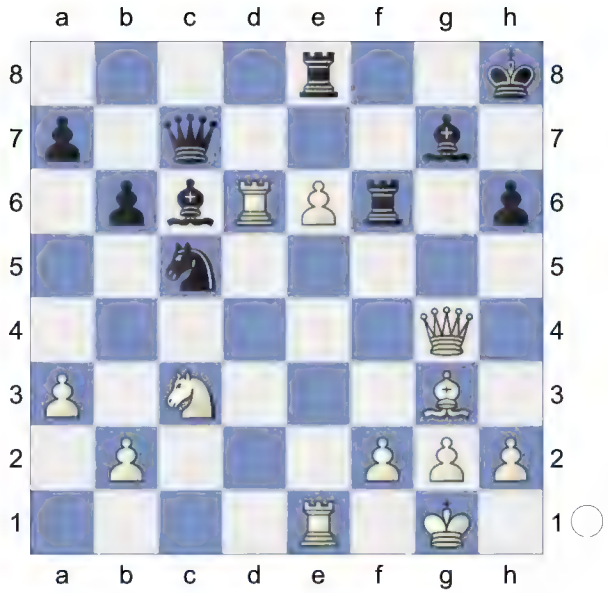
30.Bxg6! Deflection **30...fxg6**

(Diagram)

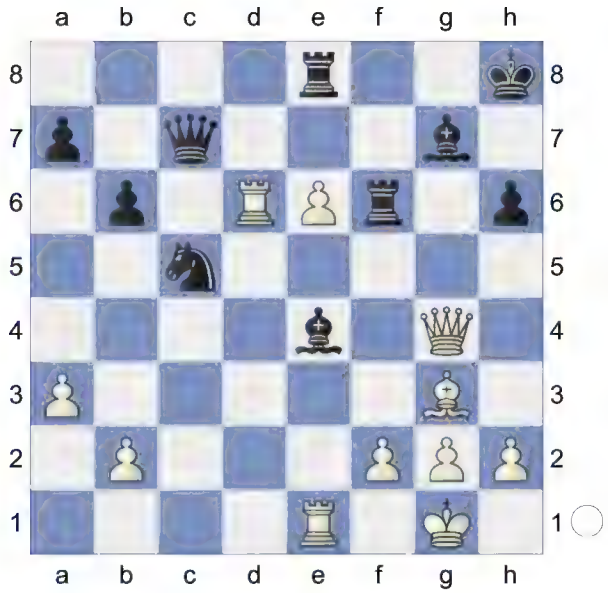


31.Qxe6+
[31.Rxe6? Nf8 32.Rd6 Rxd6 33.exd6 Qd7 34.Qc4+ Kh8-+]
31...Kh8 32.Qf7
[32.Qxg6 Nf8 33.Qh5 Rxd6 34.exd6 Qd7]
32...Rf8 33.Qxg6 And now e5-e6 would win. White has more active pieces.
33...Nc5 34.e6 0.71/22
[Better is 34.h3 1.24/20]
34...Rf6 1.43/22
[Black should play 34...Qe7 0.71/22]
35.Qg4 Black must now prevent Bg3-e5.
35...Re8

(Diagram)



36.Ne4! Bxe4
[36...Nxe4? 37.Rd7 Bxd7 38.exd7+- *(38.Bxc7 Rfxe6 39.Qh4 Kg8-+)*]



37.Rd7!→ Skewer, Discovered Attack, Double Attack. White attacks with force. The board is on fire. **37...Rg6**
[37...Nxd7 38.exd7 *(38.Bxc7 Rfxe6 39.Bg3 Nf6=)* 38...Qc6 39.dxe8N *(39.dxe8R+ Qxe8 40.Rxe4 Qc6+-)* 39...Qxe8 40.Rxe4+-]
38.Qxg6

[38.Rxc7? perishes. Rxg4 39.f3 Bd4+ 40.Kh1 Rg7 *(40...Nxe6? 41.Rxa7 Rxg3 42.hxg3-+)* 41.Rxg7 Kxg7-+ *(41...Bxg7? 42.fxe4 Bxb2 43.e5-+)*]

38...Bxg6 39.Rxc7 Rxe6 40.Rxe6 2.04/22

[40.Rc8+± 1.57/24 Kh7 41.Rxe6 Nxe6 42.b4]

40...Nxe6+-

41.Re7

[41.Rxa7 Bxb2 42.a4 Bd4±]

41...Nd4 2.79/22

[41...Bf5 1.95/23 keeps fighting. 42.b4 *(42.Rxa7 Bxb2 43.f3 b5±)* 42...a6]

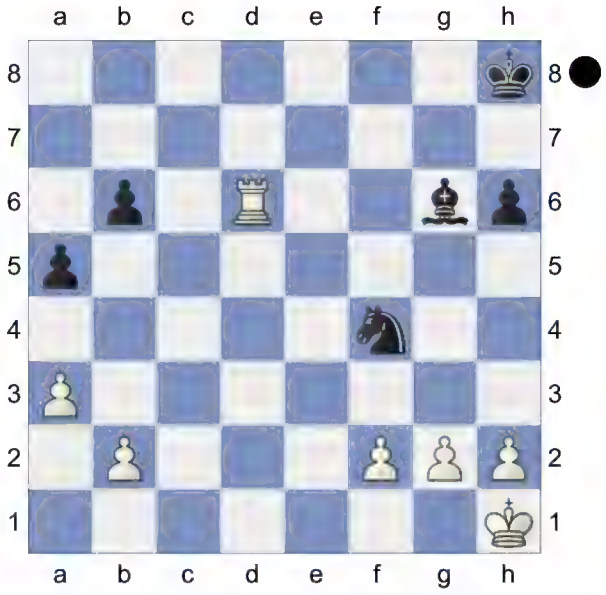
42.Be5

[Less strong is 42.Rxa7 Ne2+ 43.Kh1 Nxg3+ 44.hxg3 Bxb2±]

42...Ne2+ 43.Kh1 Bxe5 44.Rxe5 Nf4 45.Re7 a5

(Diagram)

46.Rb7 Nd5 47.Rd7 Nf4 48.Rd6



Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.22 (precise)

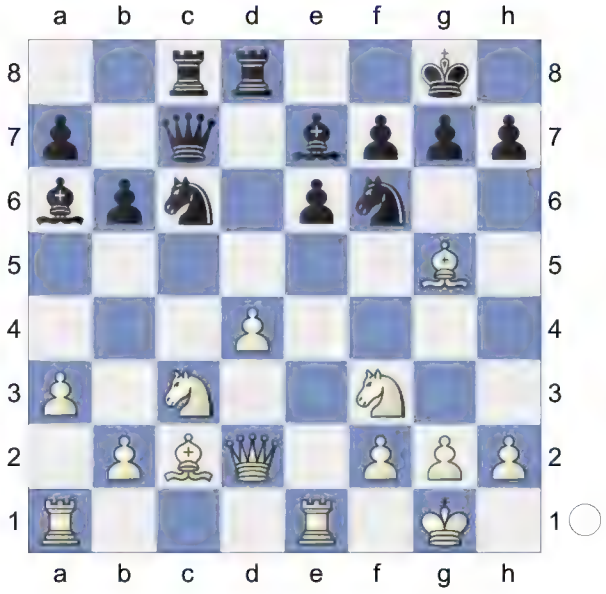
1-0

87 **D40**
□ **Preziuso,Toni** **2306**
■ **Krause,Matthias** **0**
SFSM-22 prel-04 20.02.2008
[Kitty Kat]

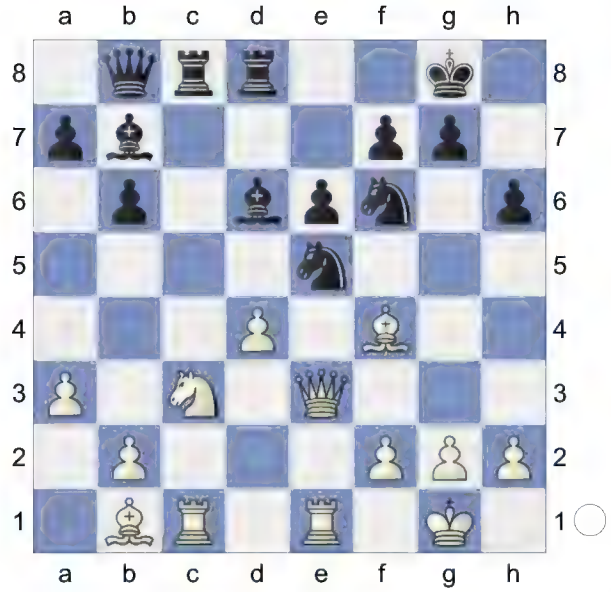
D40: Queen's Gambit Declined: Semi-Tarrasch with 5 e3
Staunton, ILN 2 Aug 1873; Harding: 'Staunton,ILN 2 Aug 1873; Harding: 'ILN 2 Aug 1873; 'An interesting little game played...by correspondence" ILN 2 Aug 1873; 'An interesting little game played... by correspondence"Staunton, ILN 2 Aug 1873; Harding: 'ILN 2 Aug 1873; 'An interesting little game played...by correspondence" **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bd3 c5**

6.c3 Nc6 7.Nf3 cxd4 8.cxd4 Be7N
[8...Bd6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Bg5 Nb4 11.Nc3 Nxd3 12.Qxd3 b6 13.Rfe1 Bb7 14.Ne5 h6 15.Bh4 Be7 16.Rad1 Nd5 17.Bg3 Nxc3 18.bxc3 Qd5 19.f3 Qxa2 20.Ng4 Rfd8 21.Ra1 Qb3 22.Re5 Rd5 23.Rae1 ½-½ (28) Thorold,E-Halford,J Halford-Thorold match 1873 Rc8 24.Rxe6 fxe6 25.Qg6 Rf8 26.Nxh6+ Kh8 27.Nf7+ Kg8 28.Nh6+ ½-½ Thorold, E-Halford,J Halford-Thorold match 1873]
9.0-0 0-0 10.Nc3 b6

11.a3 Bb7 12.Bc2 Ba6 13.Re1 Qc7
The position is equal. **14.Bg5 Rac8 15.Qd2 Rfd8**



16.Rac1 Qb8 17.Bb1 Bb7 18.Qe3
Threatening d4-d5! **18...h6 19.Bf4 Bd6 20.Ne5 Nxe5**
[20...Nxd4 looks sharper. 21.Qxd4 Bc5 22.Qa4 Rd4]



21.dxe5 Bc5 22.Qh3 Bf8 23.Bg3 0.01/21

[23.exf6 Qxf4 24.fxg7 Bxg7∓]

[23.Bxh6 gxh6 24.exf6 Qf4±]

[23.Bg5!± 0.50/20 Rc5 *(23...hxg5 24.exf6 g6 25.Bxg6+-)* 24.Bxf6 gxf6 25.exf6 *(25.Qg4+ Bg7∓)*]

23...Nd7 0.37/18

[23...Ne8= 0.01/21 might be stronger.]

24.Qg4 -0.01/18

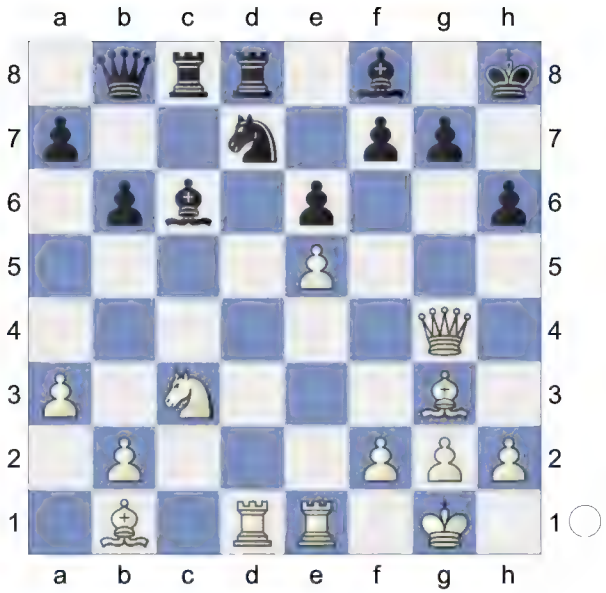
[24.Bh4!± 0.37/18]

24...Kh8 0.73/17

[24...b5= -0.01/18]

25.Rcd1± Bc6!

(Diagram)

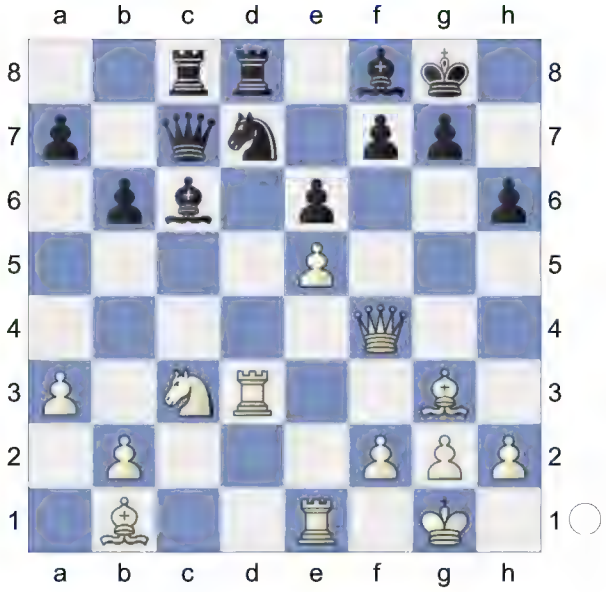


26.Qf4 Kg8 27.Rd3 0.01/20

[27.Ne4± 0.55/20]

27...Qc7 1.21/19

[27...Be7= 0.01/20 remains equal.]

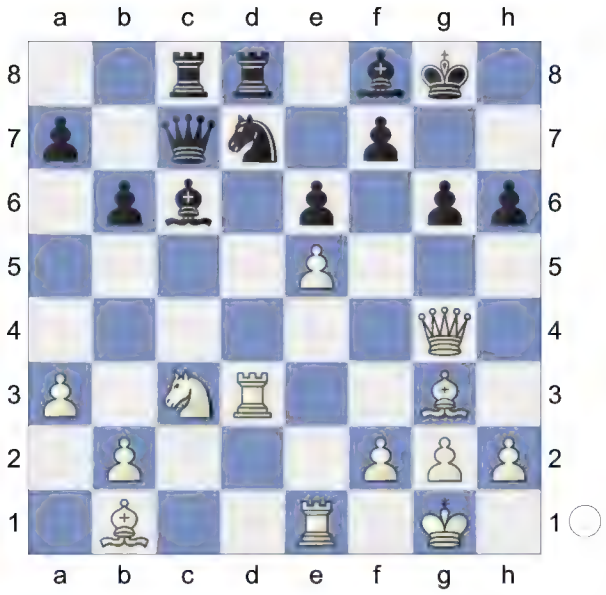


28.Qg4 0.17/20

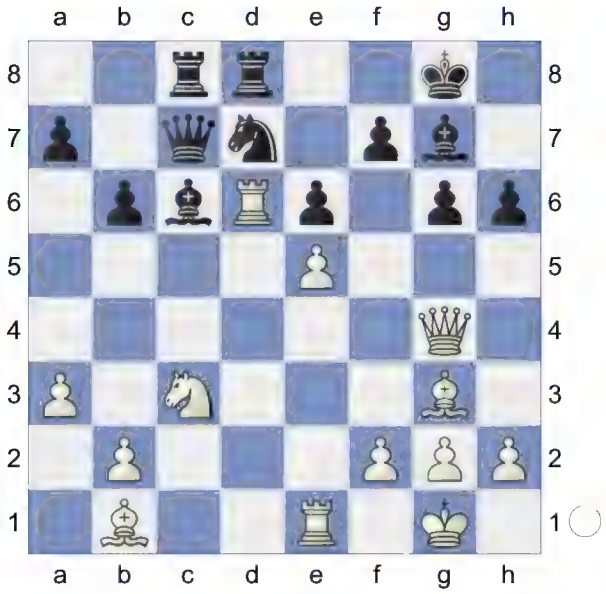
[28.Bh4!± 1.21/19]

28...g6

(Diagram)

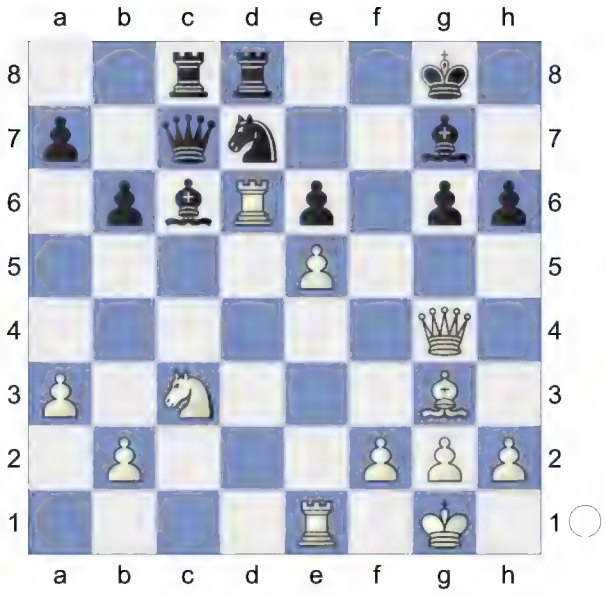


29.Rd6! Bb1xg6! would now be deadly.
29...Bg7
[29...h5 30.Qg5]

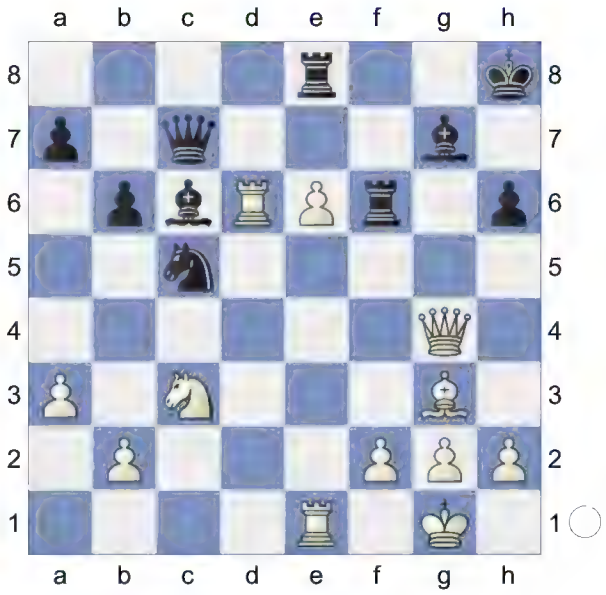


30.Bxg6! Deflection **30...fxg6**

(Diagram)

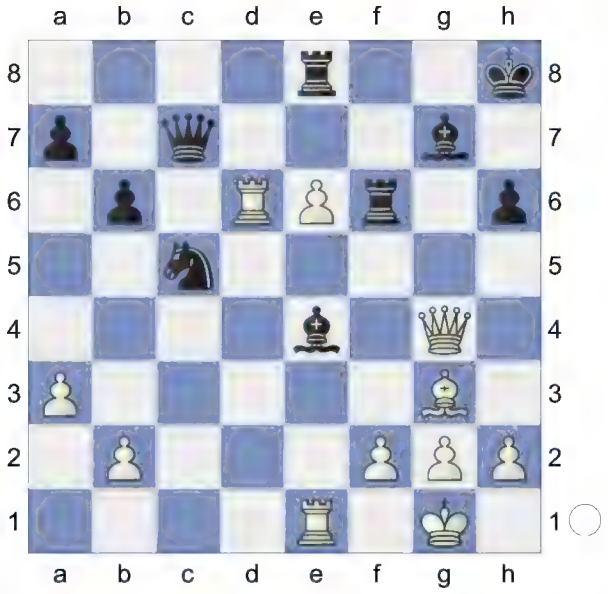


31.Qxe6+
[31.Rxe6? Nf8 32.Rd6 Qf7-+]
31...Kh8 **32.Qf7** White is much more active.
[32.Qxg6 Nf8 33.Qb1 Qb7∓]
32...Rf8! **33.Qxg6** Strongly threatening e5-e6. **33...Nc5** **34.e6** **Rf6** 1.31/23
[Better is 34...Qe7 0.76/23]
35.Qg4 And now Bg3-e5 would win.
35...Re8



36.Ne4! **Bxe4**
[36...Nxe4? 37.Rd7 Bxd7 38.exd7+- *(38.Bxc7 Rfxe6 39.Qh4*

Bxb2∓)]

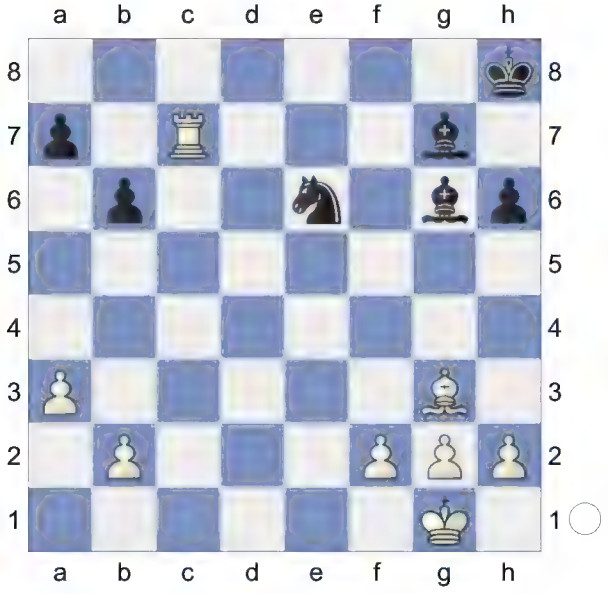


37.Rd7!→ Skewer, Discovered Attack, Double Attack. White goes for the king.

37...Rg6 38.Qxg6

[38.Rxc7? Rxg4 39.f3 Bd4+ 40.Kh1 Rg7-+ *(40...Nxe6? 41.Rxa7 Rxg3 42.hxg3-+)*]

38...Bxg6 39.Rxc7 Rxe6 40.Rxe6 Nxe6



41.Re7

[Don't take 41.Rxa7?! Bxb2 42.f3 Bc2±]

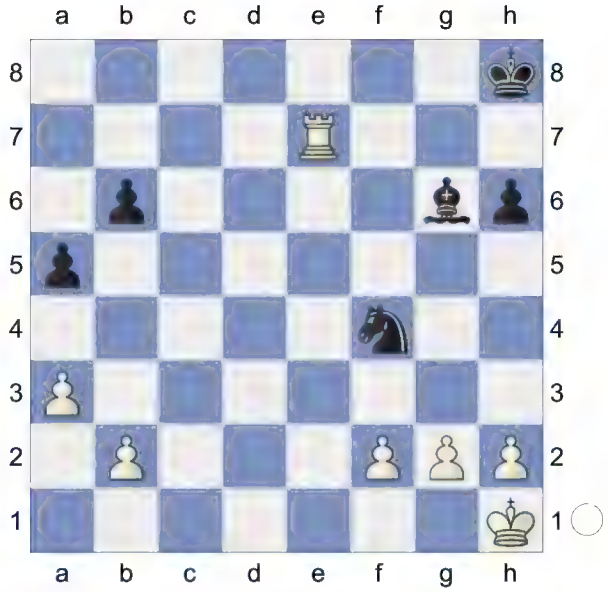
41...Nd4 2.80/23

[41...Bf5 1.87/22 was necessary. 42.b4 *(42.Rxa7 Bxb2 43.f3 Bc2±)* 42...b5]

42.Be5+-

[Weaker is 42.Rxa7 Ne2+ 43.Kf1 Nxg3+ 44.hxg3 Bxb2±]

42...Ne2+ 43.Kh1 Bxe5 44.Rxe5 Nf4 45.Re7 a5

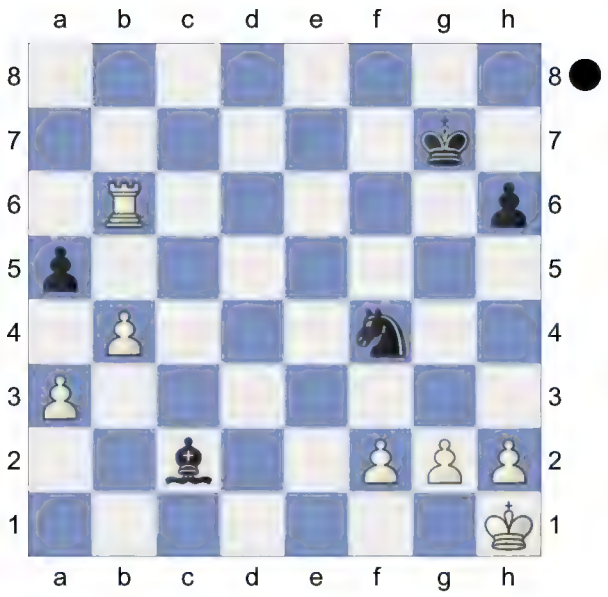


46.Rb7 Nd5 47.Rd7 Nf4 48.Rd6 Kg7 Prevents Rd6-f6. **49.Rxb6 Bc2** 4.83/23

[⌓49...Nd3 3.44/21 50.Ra6 Nxf2+ 51.Kg1 Nd3 52.Rxa5 Nxb2 53.Ra7+ Kf6]

50.b4

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.21 (precise)
1-0

88	**C01**
□ **Kennedy,Craig**	**2077**
■ **Pert,Nicholas**	**2396**
Southend op (1)	2000
[Neil McDonald]	

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.d4 ChessPublishing **1...e6 2.e4 d5 3.Bd3 c5!** Objectively this is Black's best response- the White bishop is committed to d3 and so compared to lines after 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4. exd5 exd5 Black can't be bothered by a quick Bb5+. Also on d3 the bishop can be a target for a time gaining c5-c4 move- see the next note. ChessPublishing: 'Objectively this is Black's best response- the White bishop is committed to d3 and so compared to lines after 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 c5 4. exd5 exd5 Black can't be bothered by a quick Bb5+. Also on d3 the bishop can be a target for a time gaining c5-c4 move- see the next note.' **4.exd5** ChessPublishing: 'White might also consider'

[White might also consider 4.c3!? e.g. cxd4 ChessPublishing: 'Or he can play' *(*Or he can play *4...Nf6* when if *5.e5 Nfd7 6.Ne2 Nc6* we have the 3. Nd2 Nf6 Tarrasch.*)* 5.exd5 Qxd5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.0-0 Nf6 8.cxd4 Be7 9.Nc3 Qd8 with the 2.c3 Qxd5 Sicilian.]

4...Qxd5?! This is unpromising to say the least. ChessPublishing: 'The usual move is'

[The usual move is 4...exd5 when we have a variation of the French Exchange- 1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3. exd5 exd5 4. Bd3 c5. For example ChessPublishing: 'when we have a variation of the French Exchange- 1. e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4. Bd3 c5. Forexample' 5.Nf3 c4 6.Be2 Bd6 7.0-0 ChessPublishing: 'Here' *(* Here *7.Nc3* seems to me a waste of time as the knight gets in the way of the vital c2-c4 advance, e.g. ChessPublishing: 'seems to me a waste of time as the knight gets in the way of the vital c2-c4 advance, e.g.' *Ne7 8.0-0 Nbc6 9.b3 cxb3 10.axb3 0-0 11.Nb5 Bb8 12.c4 Bg4 13.c5 a6* and Black looked better as d4 is potentially weak in Uritzky-Zifroni, ISR-chT. Israel 1999 ChessPublishing: 'and Black looked better as d4 is potentially weak in Uritzky-Zifroni, ISR-chT. Israel 1999' *)* 7...Ne7 8.b3 cxb3 9.axb3 Nbc6 10.c4 0-0 11.Nc3 Bf5! Black refuses to concede the centre with 11...dxc4. If White now captures on d5 he will regain the pawn with Nb4, etc. ChessPublishing: 'Black refuses

to concede the centre with 11...dxc4. If White now captures on d5 he will regain the pawn with Nb4, etc.' 12.Bg5 f6 13.Be3 a6 with equal s in Uritzky-Huzman, ISR-chT Israel 1999. Nevertheless, Uritzky was rated about 155 points below his opponents in both these games, but held the draw- so it can't be that bad for White. ChessPublishing: 'with equal ances in Uritzky-Huzman, ISR-chT Israel 1999. Nevertheless, Uritzky was rated about 155 points below his opponents in both these games, but held the draw- so it can't be that bad for White. ']

5.Nf3N

[5.Nc3 Qxd4 6.Nf3 *(6.Nb5 Qd8 7.Bf4 Na6 8.Qe2 Bd7 9.Nf3 Nf6 10.0-0-0 Nd5 11.Bg3 Be7 12.Ne5 0-0 13.Nxd7 Qxd7 14.c4 Nab4 15.a3 Nxd3+ 16.Qxd3 Rad8 17.Qb3 a6 18.Nc3 Nxc3 19.Rxd7 Ne2+ 20.Kd1 Nxg3* 1-0 (80) Dragnev,V (2544)-Ftacnik,L (2462) Bundesliga 2223 2022 (11.8)) 6...Qd8 7.Bf4 Nf6 8.Qe2 Nc6 9.0-0 Bd6 10.Bxd6 Qxd6 11.Rad1 Qf4 12.Ne4 Nxe4 13.Bxe4 0-0 14.Rfe1 Qc7 15.Qc4 b6 16.Rd3 Bb7 17.Bxh7+ Kxh7 18.Qh4+ Kg8 19.Ng5 1-0 Kaufmann, A-Reti,R Match Kaufmann-Reti +4-1=1 1915 (1)]

5...cxd4

(Diagram)

An extremely rare position- including this game I can only find four examples on BigBase 2001. Temporarily at least Black has an extra pawn. The problem is that he may end up in a Sicilian 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 type of position in which he has played c5xd4 prematurely. ChessPublishing: 'An extremely rare position- including this game I can only find four examples on BigBase 2001. Temporarily at least Black has an extra pawn. The problem is that he may end up in a Sicilian 2.c3 d5 3.exd5 Qxd5 type of position in which he has played c5xd4 prematurely.' **6.0-0 Nc6** ChessPublishing: 'If'

[If 6...Nf6 7.Nxd4 regains the pawn at once with a pleasant edge for White. ChessPublishing: 'regains the pawn at once with a pleasant edge for White.']

7.Qe2 ChessPublishing: 'Way back in 1881 Wemmers tried'. White has compensation.

[Way back in 1881 Wemmers tried 7.c4!? Qh5 ChessPublishing: 'Or if' *(7...dxc3 8.Nxc3* is risky as White has ideas of Bf4 and Nb5, etc. ChessPublishing: 'is risky as White

has ideas of Bf4 and Nb5, etc.'; Or if *7...Qa5 8.Be4!?)* 8.Be2 Bd6 9.h3 Qc5 10.a3 Qb6 11.b4 and White, with threats of b4-b5 and c4-c5 had a great position in Wemmers-Schwarz, DSB-02 Kongress 1881. Not wanting to speak ill of the dead I won't say anything about the manoeuvre Qh5-c5-b6. ChessPublishing: 'and White, with threats of b4-b5 and c4-c5 had a great position in Wemmers-Schwarz, DSB-02 Kongress 1881. Not wanting to speak ill of the dead I won't say anything about the manoeuvre Qh5-c5-b6.']

7...Bc5 ChessPublishing: 'Or'

[Or 7...Nf6 8.c3 ChessPublishing: 'After the slower' *(* After the slower *8.Rd1 Be7 9.c3* perhaps Black should accept the pawn with ChessPublishing: 'perhaps Black should accept the pawn with' *dxc3!? 10.Nxc3 Qh5* as the Nb5 idea isn't so great for White now that he can castle in reply. ChessPublishing: 'as the Nb5 idea isn't so great for White now that he can castle in reply.' *)*

A) in contrast to the previous note after 8...dxc3 9.Nxc3 Qh5?! 0.97/20 *(9...Qd8=* 0.19/18 *)* 10.Nb5 the check on c7 looks highly threatening.;

B) 8...Be7 ChessPublishing: 'in contrast to the previous note after' 9.cxd4 0-0 10.Rd1 b6 11.Nc3 Qd8?! *(11...Qh5)* 12.Bg5 Bg5xf6 is the strong threat. Bb7! 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.d5 exd5 15.Nxd5 and Black is very uncomfortable.]

8.Rd1 The position is equal. **8...Nge7** ChessPublishing: 'If'

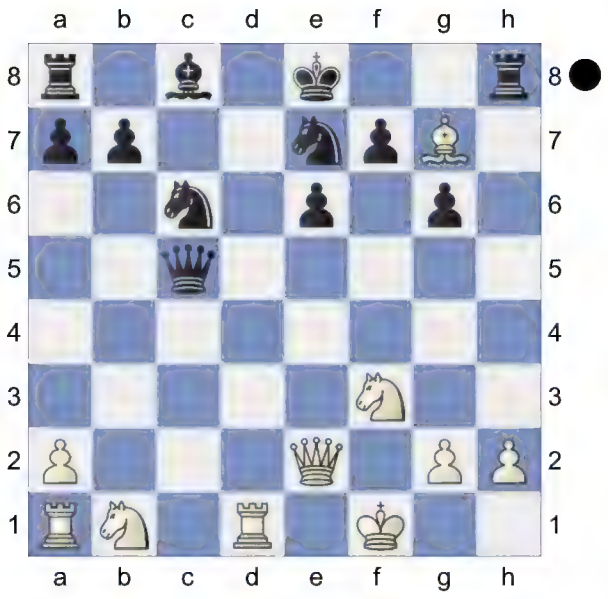
[If 8...Nf6 9.c3?! ChessPublishing: 'Quite possibly' *(*Quite possibly *9.Bg5!* is the strongest response planning Bxf6 followed by Be4 in combination with c2-c3. Then White appears to have a good game. ChessPublishing: 'is the strongest response planning Bxf6 followed by Be4 in combination with c2-c3. Then White appears to have a good game.'*)* 9...dxc3 Black has to reckon with some sharp gambit responses: 10.Bg6!? -1.17/19 when the black queen looks trapped but it isn't so simple as Black has the same resource with 10...Bxf2+ given in the note to the next move. ChessPublishing: 'Or White has the simple' *(* Or White has the simple *10.Nxc3* or finally the Danish Gambit style*; 10.Bb5 cxb2 11.Bxb2* true, this looks a little far fetched!*; 10.Nxc3!=* 0.09/21 *Qh5 11.Bg5)*]

9.c3 e5 0.87/20 ChessPublishing: 'This works out badly, but if'

[This works out badly, but if 9...dxc3? 1.02/21 9...Bc5-b6 0.26

A) I wanted to suggest 10.Bg6?! -0.45/21 10.Nb1xc3 0.87 but unfortunately I can't quite make it work, e.g. ChessPublishing: 'but unfortunately I can't quite make it work, e.g.' Bxf2+! 11.Kxf2 -1.03/21 *(11.Kh1!∓* -0.50/21 *Qa5 12.Bxf7+* Decoy *Kxf7 13.Ng5+ Kg8 14.Qxf2)* 11...cxb2∓ 12.Bxb2 Qc5+ 13.Kf1 hxg6 14.Bxg7

(Diagram)



Rg8 -0.75/22 *(⌓14...Rh7!* -1.39/21 *15.Bf6 Qf5)* 15.Bf6∓

A1) 15...Nd5 0.46/21 15...b7-b6 -0.79 16.Rxd5! Qxd5 17.Nc3 Qf5?! 2.08/21 *(17...Qa5!±* 0.47/20 *)* 18.Ne4;

A2) 15...Nf5 White must now prevent ...Nf5-e3+. 16.Nc3 Hoping for Nc3-e4. Ne3+ 17.Ke1 Nxd1? 1.03/21 *(17...e5!∓* -0.62/20 keeps the upper hand. *18.Rdc1 Ng4)* 18.Rxd1 Here White is the exchange and two pawns down, though he obviously has attacking chances. ChessPublishing: 'Here White is the exchange and two pawns down, though he obviously has attacking chances.';

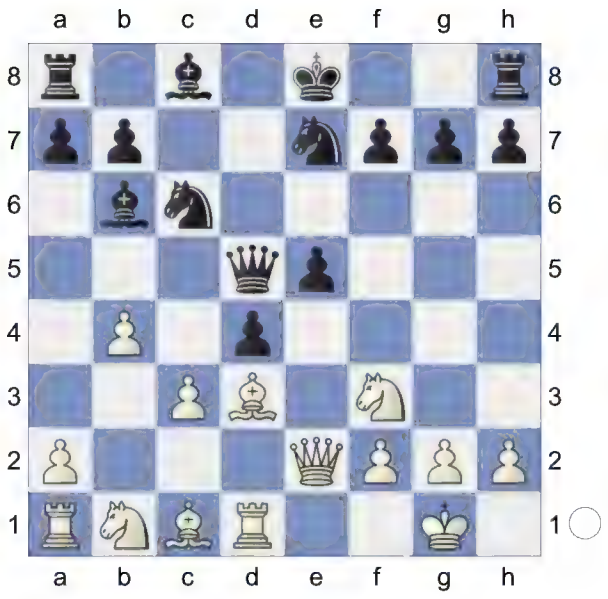
B) 10.Nxc3! keeps up the pressure ChessPublishing: 'I wanted to suggest' 10...Qh5 11.Ne4 0-0? 12.Ng3! Qg4 13.Bxh7+!]

[9...Bd7= 0.25/18 keeps the balance.]

10.b4!± Bd3-c4 would now be deadly.

10...Bb6

(Diagram)



11.b5 Na5 12.Nxe5 Black drops the e pawn and is still left with a weak pawn on d4. ChessPublishing: 'Black drops the e pawn and is still left with a weak pawn on d4.'

[Don't play 12.Qxe5?! Qxe5 13.Nxe5 dxc3=]

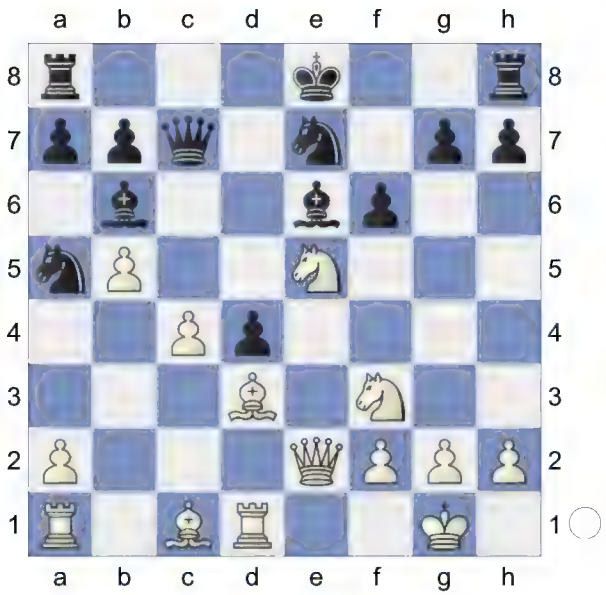
12...Be6 13.c4↑ White has strong initiative. **13...Qd8 14.Nd2** White has more active pieces. **14...Qc7** 1.48/21

[Better is 14...0-0 1.03/18]

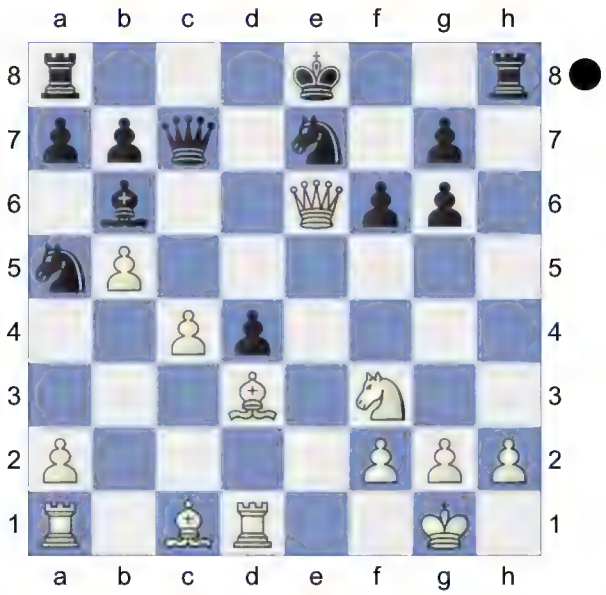
15.Ndf3 f6 2.55/21

[15...h6± 1.28/18 is a better defense. 16.Bf4 Qd8]

(Diagram)



Here Black offered a draw. As he outrated his opponent by more than 300 points I guess he wasn't very happy with his position! White accepted. Instead he could have played on with ChessPublishing: 'Here Black offered a draw. As he outrated his opponent by more than 300 points I guess he wasn't very happy with his position! White accepted. Instead he could have played on with'. Prevents Nf3-g5 **16.Ng6!+-** Discovered Attack **16...hxg6 17.Qxe6**



with good winning chances- Black's knight is awful on a5 and there is the threat of Bxg6+, to say nothing about Ba3 and Re1. ChessPublishing: 'with good winninhg chances- Black's knight is awful on a5 and there is the threat of Bxg6+, to say nothing about Ba3 and Re1.'. White took control after the opening.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.24 (precise)

½-½

89 **C01**

□ **Carlsen,Magnus**

■ **Abusdal,Ivar A**

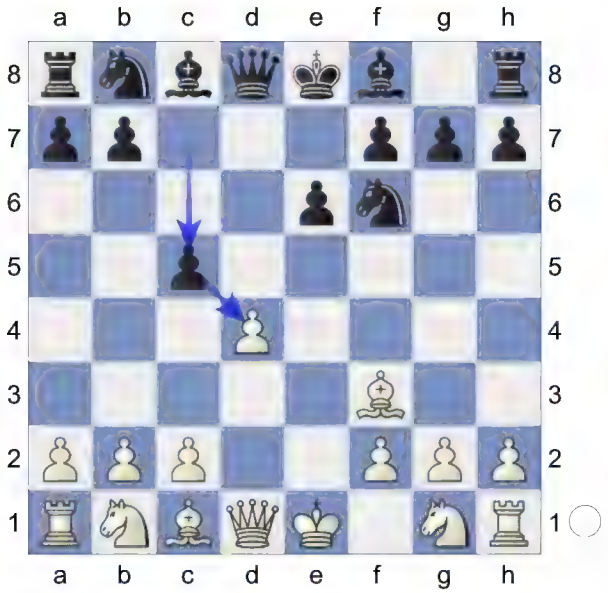
Junior Event (1) 12.05.2003

[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation

https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'We're gonna skip a few games where Onischuk won as the players he played were far beyond him and they brought nothing new, nothing extremely exciting. This game though is a Short n' Sweet. It's the European Blitz Championship of 2016. It was the day when Onischuk chose violence.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**

(Diagram)



6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 Nd5 8.Bxd5 Qxd5 0.05/21

[Better is 8...exd5± 0.55/21 9.dxc5 Be7]

9.Nbc3= Qh5 0.84/20

[9...Qxg2= 0.00/20 keeps the balance. 10.Rg1 Qxh2 11.Bf4 Qh5 12.Nb5 Ke7 13.Bd6+ Kf6 14.dxc5 e5 15.Nc7 Bxd6 16.Qxd6+ Be6 17.Nd5+ 1-0 Onischuk,V (2601)-Martinovic,S (2550) European Blitz 2016 (12.24)]

10.Nb5± cxd4

[10...Rb8 11.0-0 Be7 12.d5 exd5 13.Bf4 0-0 14.Bxb8 Nxb8 15.Nf4 Qxd1 16.Raxd1 d4 17.Rfe1 Bd8 18.Nd6 Bg4 19.f3 Bc7 20.Nxb7 Bxf3 21.gxf3 Bxf4 22.Nxc5 Be3+ 23.Kg2 Rc8 24.c3 Nc6 25.Nb3 1-0 (27) Vachier Lagrave,M (2793)-Van der Lende,I (2332) PRO League Group 2018 (8)]

(Diagram)

11.Nc7+ Ke7 ...Qh5-a5+ would now be deadly. **12.Nxa8N** -0.42/19

[Only move: 12.Bf4!± 0.99/20 Rb8 13.Nxd4 Qxd1+ 14.Rxd1 e5 15.Nxc6+ bxc6 16.Bxe5 Rb7 17.Bd6+ Kf6 18.0-0 Rxb2 19.Rfe1 Bxd6 20.Rxd6+ Kg5 21.Rxc6 5. 3...dxe4 Part I-N,N]

12...dxe3∓ 13.0-0 -1.06/18

[13.fxe3∓ -0.51/19 Qe5 14.b4]

13...Qe5∓ 14.Nc3 Ke8

[14...f6!? 15.fxe3 b6-+]

15.fxe3 -1.41/20

[White should play 15.f4∓ -0.57/19 Qb8 16.Nb5]

15...Bd6!

(Diagram)

16.g3 Ke7! aiming for ...Bc8-d7! **17.Qf3** -1.85/21

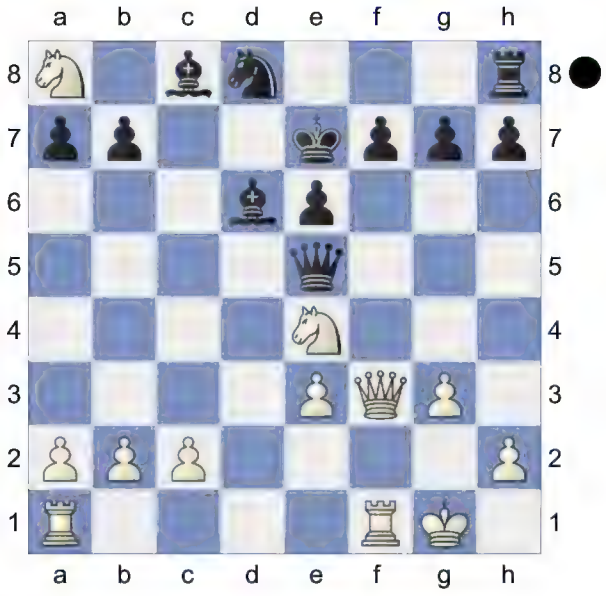
[17.Qg4∓ -1.04/20 was necessary.]

17...Nd8 -0.48/20

[17...f5-+ -1.85/21 And now ...Bc8-d7 would win. 18.Qh5 Bd7 *(18...Qxe3+? 19.Kh1-+)*]

18.Ne4 -0.96/19

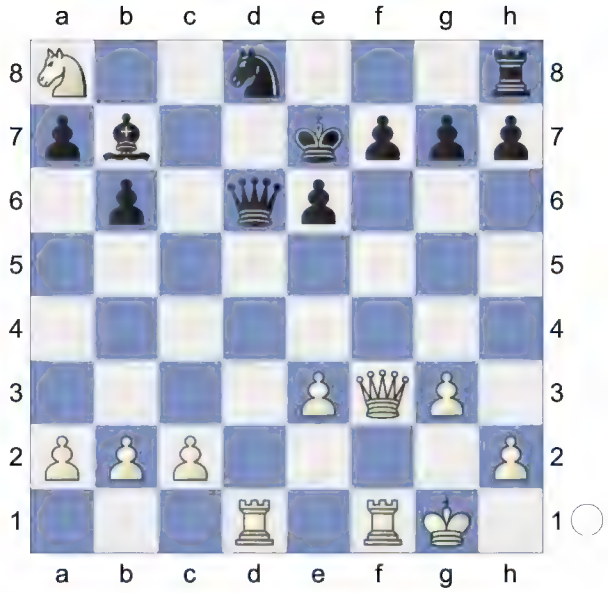
[18.Rad1!∓ -0.48/20 was preferrable. b5 19.Qg4]



18...b6? 1.13/21

[18...Bb8!∓ -0.96/19 keeps the pressure on. White must now prevent ...b7-b5! 19.Nf2 b6 *(19...Qxb2 20.e4∓)*]

19.Nxd6± Qxd6 20.Rad1 Bb7!



21.Qh5 Qb8? 4.89/22

[21...Qc5± 0.75/22 22.Qxc5+ Remove Defender bxc5]

A mistake that costs the game.

22.Rxd8!+- Deflection **22...Kxd8**

[22...Rxd8 23.Rxf7+]

23.Qxf7? 2.16/23

[23.Rxf7 7.73/26 Threatening mate

with Qh5-g5+. Qd6 24.Rxb7]

23...Bxa8? 4.78/23

[23...Qxa8? perishes. 24.Rd1+ Bd5 25.Qxe6+- *(25.Qxg7 Re8+-)*]

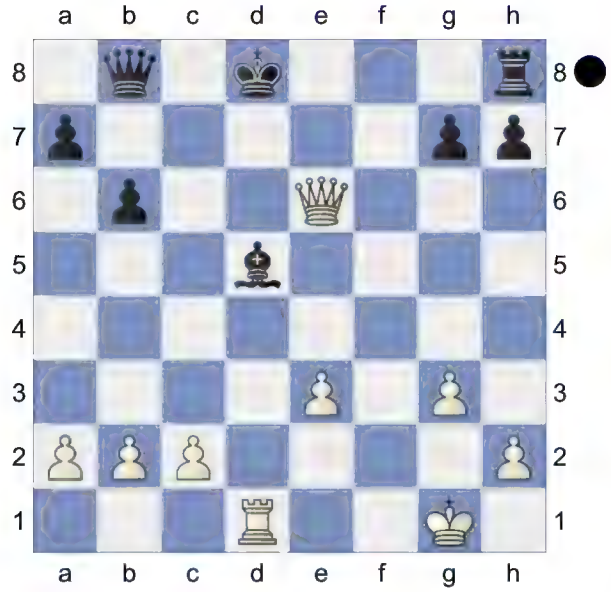
[23...Bc6 2.16/23 might work better.]

24.Rd1+

[Not 24.Qxg7 Re8±]

24...Bd5 ...Kd8-c8 is the strong threat.

25.Qxe6



Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/ Black=0.91

1-0

90 **C01**

□ **Hector,Jonny** **2300**

■ **Short,Nigel D** **2510**

World U20-ch22 (8) 20.08.1983

[Kitty Kat]

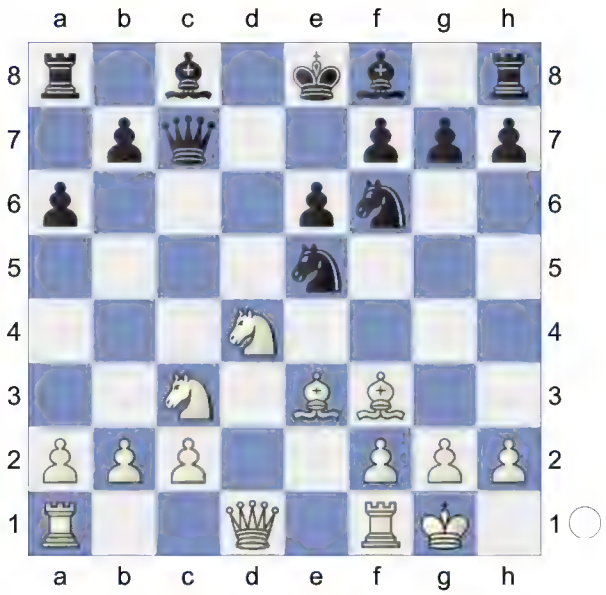
C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

(Diagram)

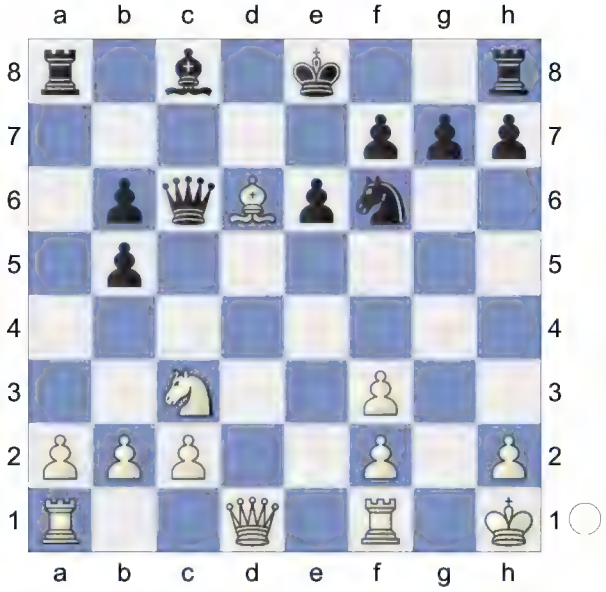
6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5 The position is equal. **9.Nc3 a6 10.0-0 Qc7N**

[10...Bd6 11.Bg5 *(11.Qe2 Qc7 12.h3 h6 13.Be4 Bd7 14.Rad1 0-0* 6) French Odds & Ends-French Odds Ends Schletcht 1... e6 Against Everything 2024*)* 11...Qc7 12.Bxf6 gxf6 13.Ne4 Be7 14.g3 f5 15.Nd2 Nxf3+ 16.N2xf3 0-0 10. Rare Lines-3. Bd3]

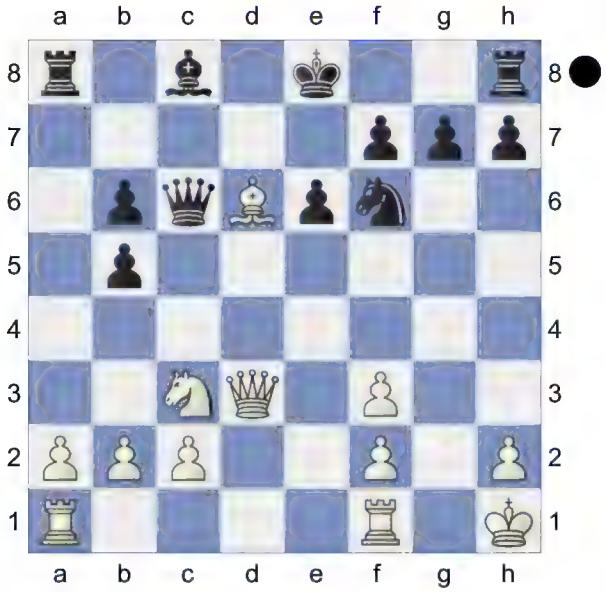


11.Bf4 Bd6 And now ...Ne5xf3+ would

win. **12.Kh1** -0.31/19
[12.Ndb5± 0.34/23 axb5 13.Nxb5 Nxf3+ 14.Qxf3 Bxf4 15.Nxc7+ Bxc7 16.Qc3]
12...Nxf3∓ 13.Ndb5 axb5 14.Bxd6 Qc6 15.gxf3 b6!



16.Qd3 -1.13/22
[16.Kg2∓ -0.66/21]



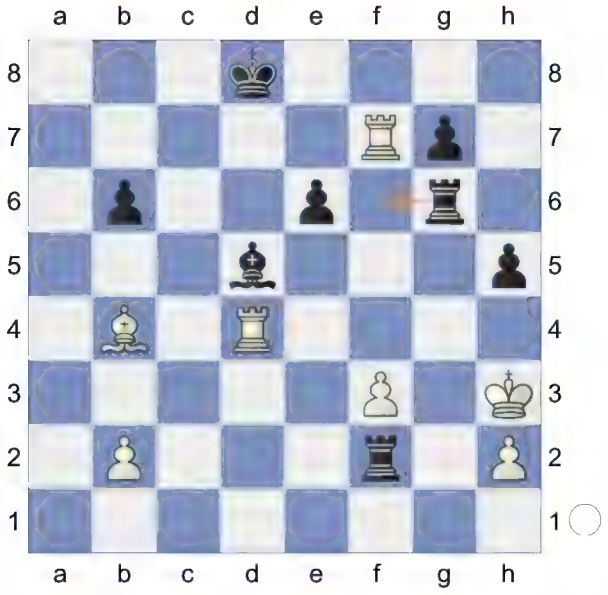
16...b4 0.01/23 **17.Nb5=**
[17.Bxb4? Ba6 18.Qd6 Qxd6 *(18...Qxf3+ 19.Kg1∓)* 19.Bxd6 Bxf1 20.Rxf1 0-0-0∓]

17...Ba6 18.a4 Nd5 19.Rfe1 -0.13/21
[19.Rg1± 0.61/20]
19...Rc8!↑ Black is more active. **20.Rad1 Bxb5**

21.Qxd5 Qxd5
[21...Bxa4 22.Rxe6+ *(22.Bxb4 Qxd5 23.Rxd5 Rxc2∓)* 22...Kd8 23.Qg5+ *(23.Bxb4+ Qxd5 24.Rxd5+ Kc7+-)* 23...f6 24.Rxf6 *(24.Qxg7? Qxf3+ 25.Kg1 Qxd1+-+; 24.Qxg7? Qxf3+ 25.Kg1 Qxd1+-+)*]
22.Rxd5 Bxa4 23.Bxb4 -0.95/22
[23.b3= -0.21/22 Bc6 24.Rd3]
23...Rxc2∓
[23...Bxc2 24.Rd4∓]
24.Rd4 Bc6
[24...Rxb2? 25.Ba3 Rxf2 26.Rxa4+-]
[24...Rxf2? 25.Rc1 Rc2 *(25...Rxb2 26.Rc8#)* 26.Rxc2 Bxc2 27.Rc4+-]
25.Kg2 h5
[25...Rxb2 26.Rc1 e5 27.Rdc4±]

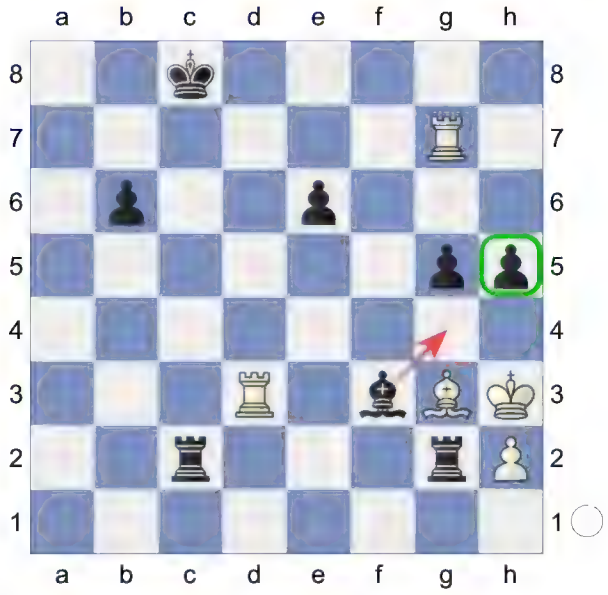
(Diagram)

26.Ra1 Rh6! 27.Ra7 White threatens Ra7-e7+ and mate. **27...Rg6+**
[Inferior is 27...Rxb2 28.Re7+ Kf8 29.Rd8+]
28.Kh3 Intending Ra7-e7+ and mate.
28...Bd5! Threatens to win with ...Rg6-f6!
[28...Rxf2 29.Re7+ Kf8 30.Rd8+]
29.Re7+ Kd8 30.Rxf7 Rxf2



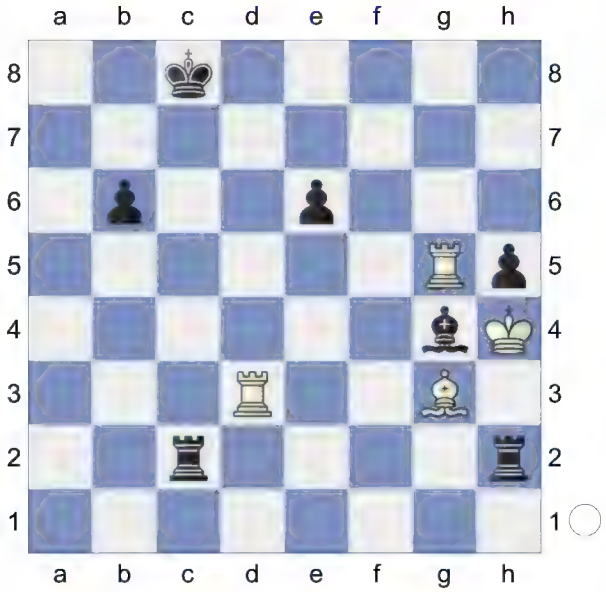
31.Be1 Rxb2 ...Kd8-e8 is the strong threat. **32.Bh4+! Kc8 33.Rd1** -1.75/22
[33.Bg3∓ -1.16/22 might work better.]
33...Rc2 -1.34/20
[33...Rb5-+ -1.75/22 aiming for ...e6-e5. 34.Rc1+ Rc5 35.Rxc5+ bxc5]
34.Rd3 -2.12/23
[34.Bg3∓ -1.34/20]
34...Rgg2 35.Bg3 g5

Hoping for ...Bd5xf3! **36.Rg7 Bxf3**



Remove Defender, Decoy **37.Rxg5** -3.54/23
[37.Rg8+ -1.78/24 is a better defense. Kb7 38.Rg7+ Kc6 39.Rd6+ *(39.Rc7+? Kb5-+)* 39...Kb5 40.Rxg5+ Ka6 41.Rd4]
37...Bg4+-+ 38.Kh4? -9.90/24

[38.Rxg4 -3.75/22 hxg4+ 39.Kxg4]
38...Rxh2+



Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/ Black=0.15 (very precise)
0-1

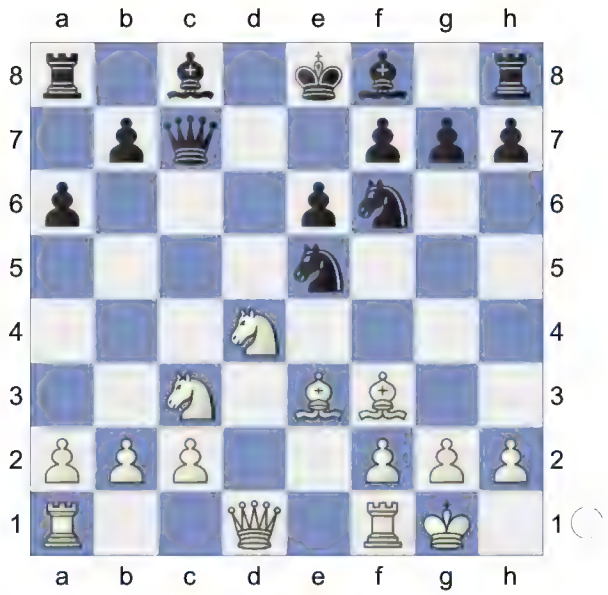
91 **C01**
□ **Hector,Jonny** **2300**
■ **Short,Nigel D** **2510**
Belfort FRA (1) 01.01.1983
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5

(Diagram)

6.Ne2 Nc6 7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5 The position is equal. **9.Nc3 a6 10.0-0 Qc7N**

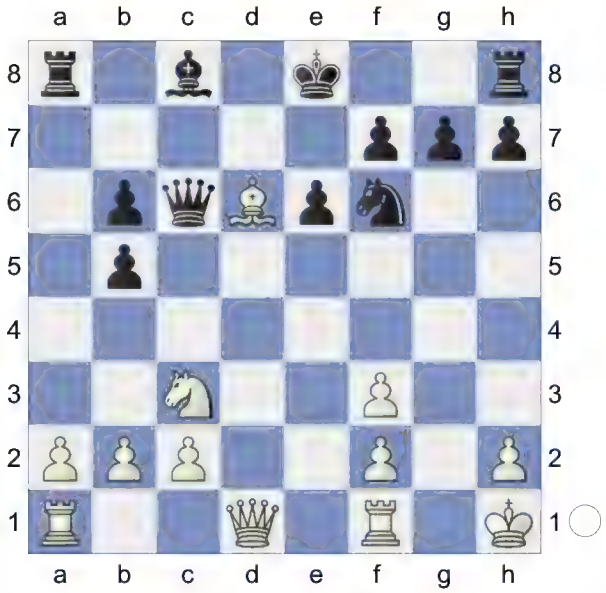
[10...Bd6 11.Bg5 *(11.Qe2 Qc7 12.h3 h6 13.Be4 Bd7 14.Rad1 0-0* 6) French Odds & Ends-French Odds Ends Schletcht 1... e6 Against Everything 2024*)* 11...Qc7 12.Bxf6 gxf6 13.Ne4 Be7 14.g3 f5 15.Nd2 Nxf3+ 16.N2xf3 0-0 10. Rare Lines-3. Bd3]



11.Bf4 Bd6 12.Kh1 -0.31/18

[12.Ndb5= 0.22/22 axb5 13.Nxb5 Nxf3+ 14.Qxf3 Bxf4 15.Nxc7+ Bxc7 16.a4]

12...Nxf3∓ 13.Ndb5 axb5 14.Bxd6 Qc6 15.gxf3 b6



16.Qd3 b4 -0.06/24 **17.Nb5=**

Strongly threatening Nb5-c7+.

[17.Bxb4 Ba6 18.Qd6 Qxd6 *(18...Qxf3+ 19.Kg1∓)* 19.Bxd6 Bxf1 20.Rxf1 0-0-0-+]

17...Ba6 0.14/24

[17...Ra5 -0.25/22 was preferrable. 18.a4 bxa3 19.Nc7+ *(19.Nxa3? Rd5-+)* 19...Kd7]

18.a4 Nd5 0.58/20

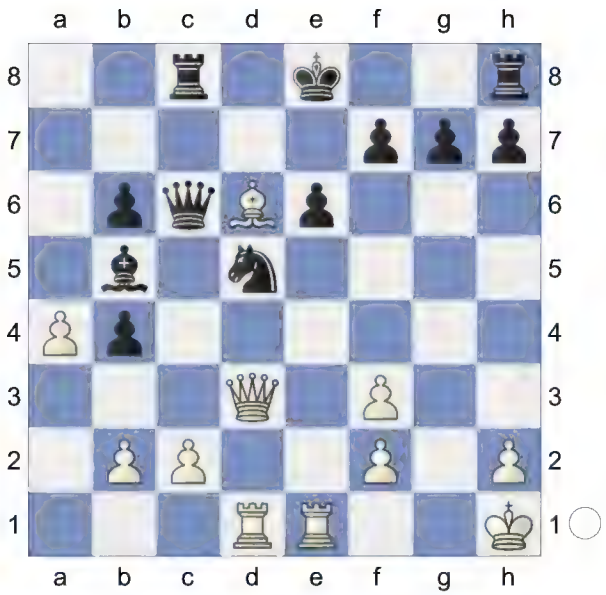
[18...Rd8= 0.22/22 19.Rfd1 Rc8 *(19...Nd5 20.Bxb4 Rd7 21.Ba3±)*]

19.Rfe1 -0.08/22

[19.Rg1± 0.58/20]

19...Rc8! 20.Rad1 Bxb5

(Diagram)



21.Qxd5 Qxd5

[21...Bxa4 22.Rxe6+ *(22.Bxb4 Qxd5 23.Rxd5 Rxc2∓)* 22...Kd8 23.Qg5+ *(23.Bxb4+ Qxd5 24.Rxd5+ Kc7+-)* 23...f6 24.Rxf6 *(24.Qxg7? Qxf3+ 25.Kg1 Qxd1+-+; 24.Qxg7? Qxf3+ 25.Kg1 Qxd1+-+)*]

22.Rxd5 Bxa4 23.Bxb4 -1.04/23

[23.b3= -0.24/23 remains equal. Bc6 24.Rd3]

23...Rxc2∓

[23...Bxc2?! 24.Kg2=]

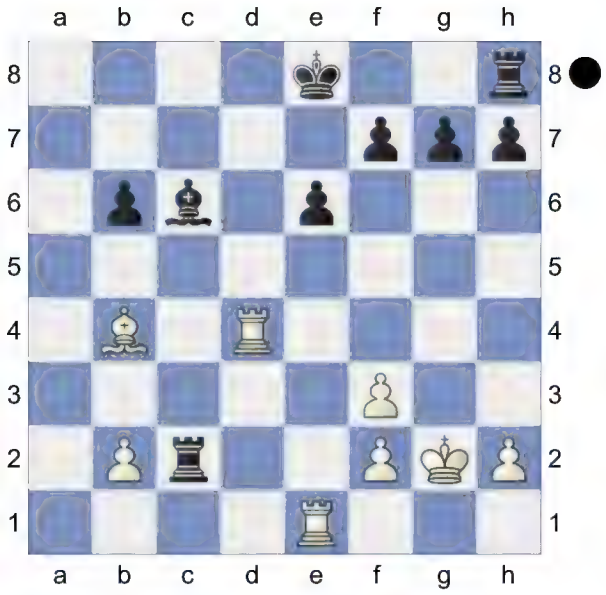
24.Rd4 Bc6

[24...Rxb2? 25.Ba3 Rxf2 26.Rxa4+-]

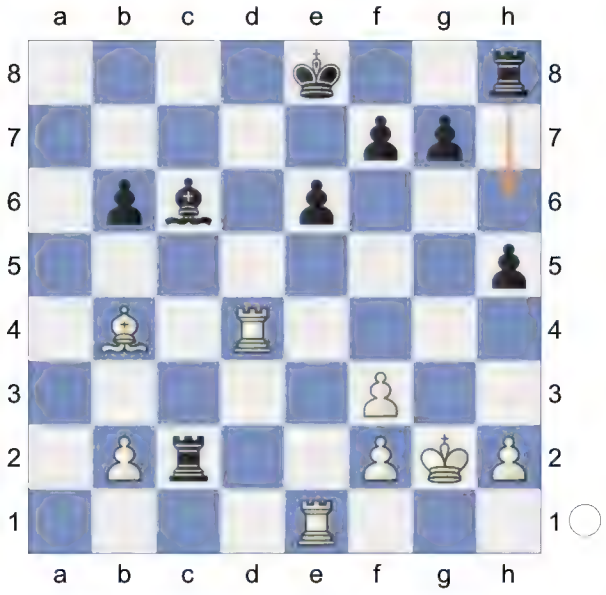
[24...Rxf2? 25.Rc1 Rc2 *(25...Rxb2 26.Rc8#)* 26.Rxc2 Bxc2 27.Rc4+-]

25.Kg2

(Diagram)

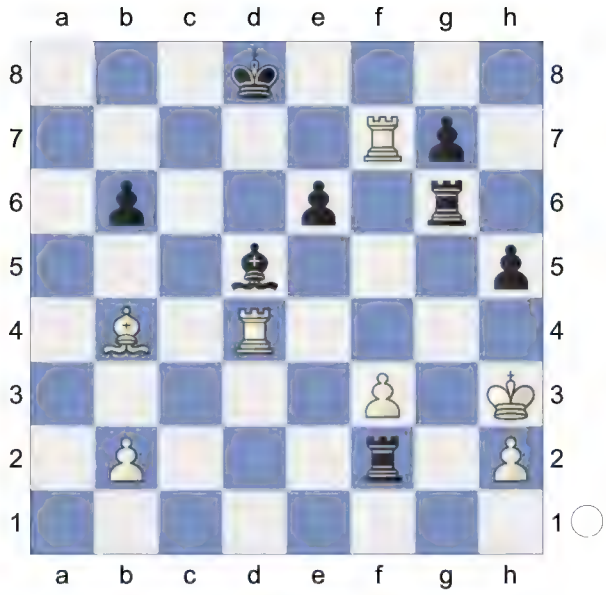


h5!



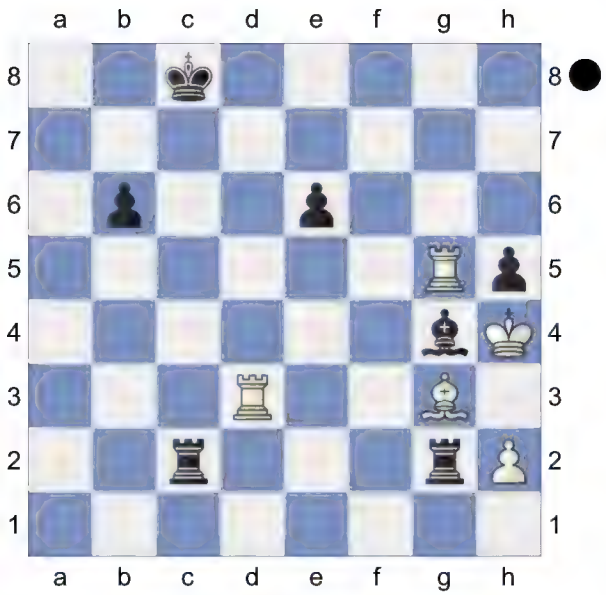
26.Ra1 Rh6! Hoping for ...Rh6-g6+.
27.Ra7 Ra7-e7+ would kill now.
27...Rg6+
[Stronger than 27...Rxb2 28.Re7+ Kf8 29.Rd8+]
28.Kh3 White wants to mate with Ra7-e7+. **28...Bd5!**↑ Black is on the roll.
[Worse is 28...Rxf2 29.Re7+ Kf8 30.Rd8+]
29.Re7+ Kd8 30.Rxf7 Rxf2

(Diagram)

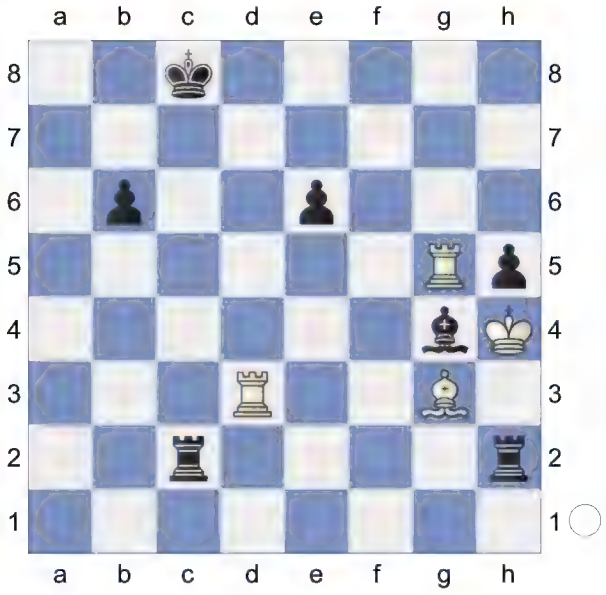


31.Be1 Rxb2 32.Bh4+ Kc8 33.Rd1 Rc2 Dodges Rd1-c1 **34.Rd3** -2.21/23
[34.Bg3∓ -1.25/22]
34...Rgg2 35.Bg3 g5

And now ...Bd5xf3! would win. **36.Rg7 Bxf3** Remove Defender, Decoy **37.Rxg5** -3.53/22
[⩲37.Rg8+ -2.09/23 Kb7 38.Rg7+ Kc6 39.Rd6+ *(39.Rc7+? Kb5-+)* 39...Kb5 40.Rxg5+ Ka6 41.Rd4]
37...Bg4+-+ 38.Kh4? -9.81/23
[38.Rxg4 -3.93/23 hxg4+ 39.Kxg4]



38...Rxh2+!



Weighted Error Value: White=0.32/ Black=0.09 (flawless)

0-1

92 **C01**

□ **Schweier,Sven**

■ **Gremmer,Sabine**

E0270 www.desc-online.de 23.04.1999

[Fritz 6 Old (30s)]

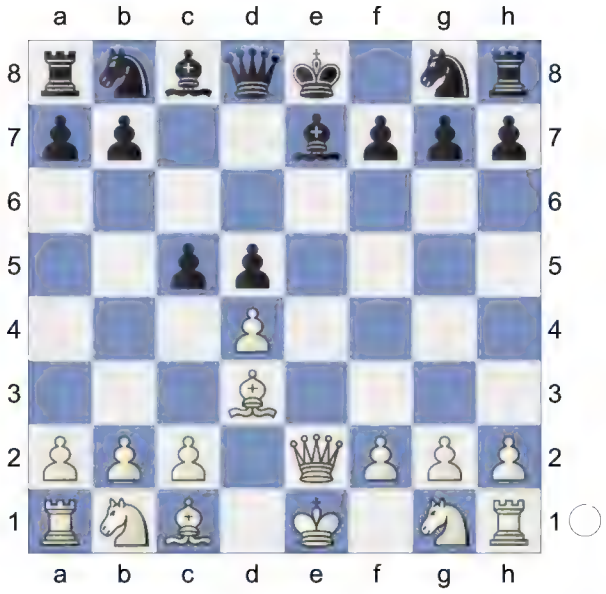
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 Nun gerät Weiß unter starken Druck. **3.Bd3**

[3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Nd7=]

3...c5 4.exd5 exd5

[4...Qxd5 5.Nc3 Qxd4 6.Nf3∓]

5.Qe2+ Be7



6.Bg5??-+ gibt den Vorteil aus der Hand

[⌓6.dxc5 und Weiß kann noch kämpfen Nf6 7.c3±]

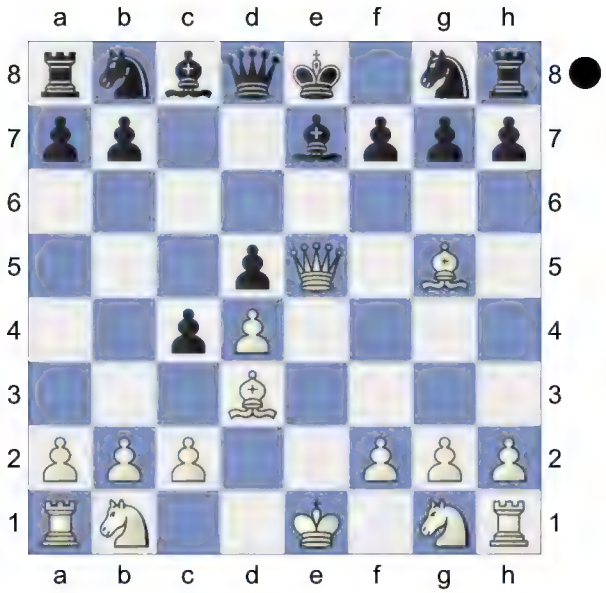
6...c4

[6...cxd4?! 7.Nd2∓]

7.Qe5?

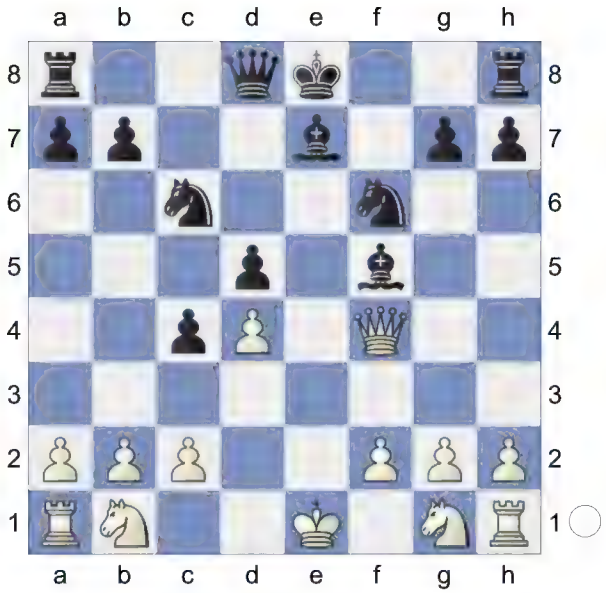
[⌓7.Bxe7 Nxe7 8.Bxc4 dxc4 9.Nf3-+]

(Diagram)

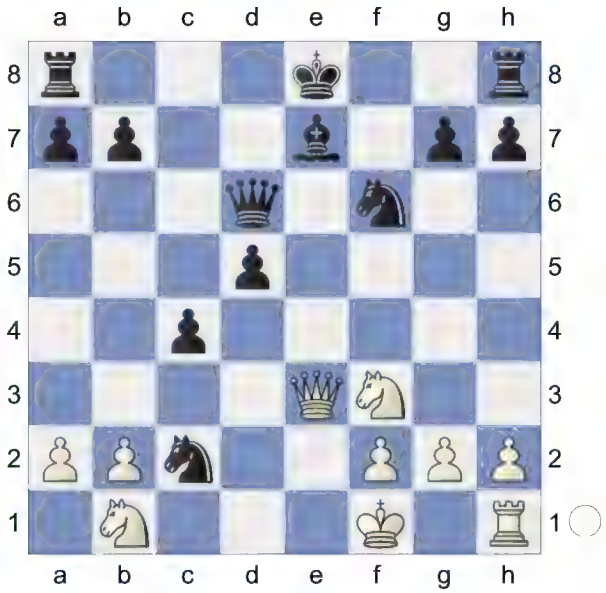


7...f6! Boing!
[7...cxd3?! 8.Qxg7 dxc2 9.Qxh8 Bb4+ 10.Nc3 Qxg5 11.Nge2-+]
8.Bxf6
[8.Qg3 ändert nichts mehr fxg5 *(8...cxd3?! 9.Bd2 Qb6 10.Nc3-+)* 9.Be2 Qb6-+]
8...Nxf6
[8...gxf6?! 9.Qh5+ Kf8 10.Bf5 Bxf5 11.Qxf5-+]
[8...cxd3? ist naheliegend und schlecht 9.Bxg7 dxc2 10.Nc3+-]
9.Bf5
[9.Be2 könnte noch eine geringe Chance darstellen Qb6 10.b3-+]
9...Nc6 10.Qf4 Bxf5

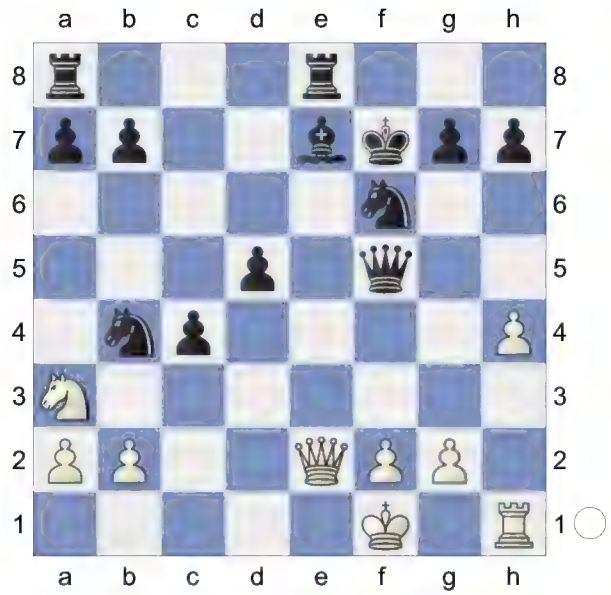
(Diagram)



11.Qxf5
[11.c3 ändert den traurigen Lauf der Dinge nicht Qb6 12.Qc1 0-0-+]
11...Nxd4 12.Qe5 Nxc2+ 13.Kf1 Nxa1 14.Nf3 Qd6 15.Qe3 Nc2



16.Qe2 Nb4 17.Nd4
[17.Nc3 holt die Kuh nicht vom Eis 0-0-+]
17...Qf4 18.Nf5 Mit der Mattdrohung Dxe7 **18...Qxf5 19.Na3 Kf7 20.h4 Rhe8**
[20...Rhe8 21.Qf3 Qxf3 22.gxf3 Bc5-+]

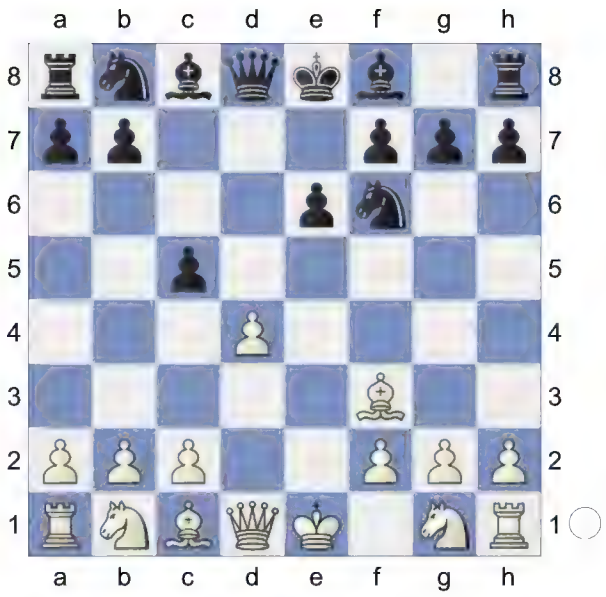


0-1

93 **C01**
□ **Arbakov,Valentin** **2400**
■ **Kramnik,Vladimir** **0**
Belgorod GMA-qual 1989
[Kitty Kat]

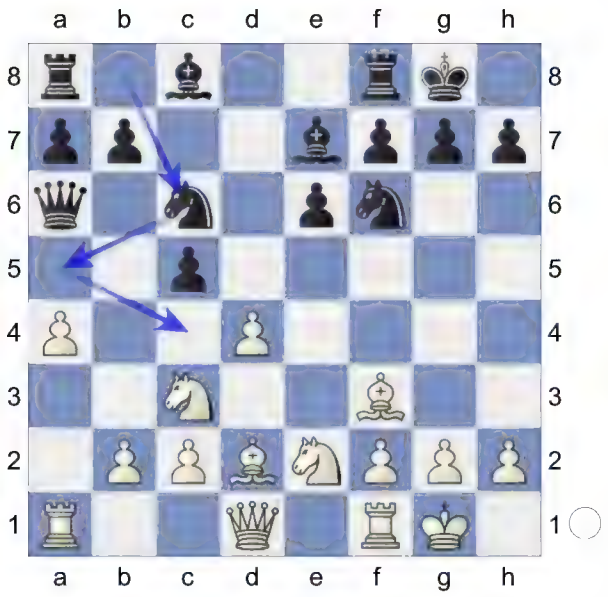
C01: French: Exchange Variation https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**

(Diagram)

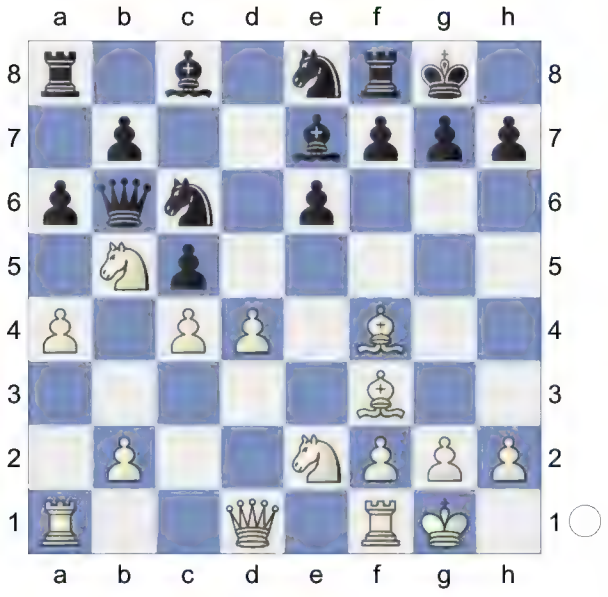


6.Ne2 Be7 7.Nbc3 0-0 8.0-0
[8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 f5 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 Bc4 20.b3 Ba6 21.Kd1 Bf2 22.Ne2 Re8 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4)]
8...Qa5 0.38/19
[8...Nc6= -0.06/17]
9.Bd2N
[9.Qe1 Kh8 10.Be3 Nc6 11.g3 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Bd7 14.Nd5 Qxe1 15.Rfxe1 Nxd5 16.Bxd5 Bb4 17.Bxb7 Rab8 18.Bf3 Bxe1 19.Rxe1 Rfc8 20.Rc1 Bc6 21.Bxc6 Rxc6 22.c4 a5 23.Kf1 a4 ½-½ (51) Gusev,D (1863)-Vardanyan, A (1735) Wch U10 Montesilvano 2024 (10)]
9...Qa6 10.a4 Nc6

(Diagram)

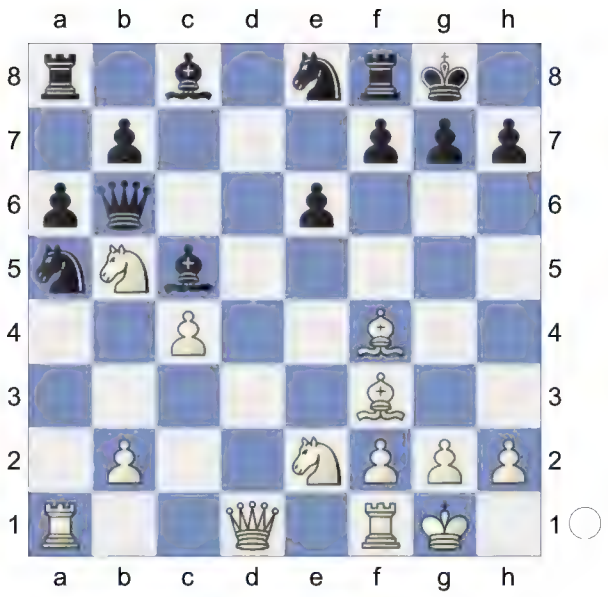


11.Nb5 Qb6 Prevents Nb5-c7. **12.Bf4 Ne8** 0.50/20
[12...cxd4= 0.12/20 deserves consideration. 13.Nexd4 Rd8 14.Nxc6 bxc6]
13.c4± a6

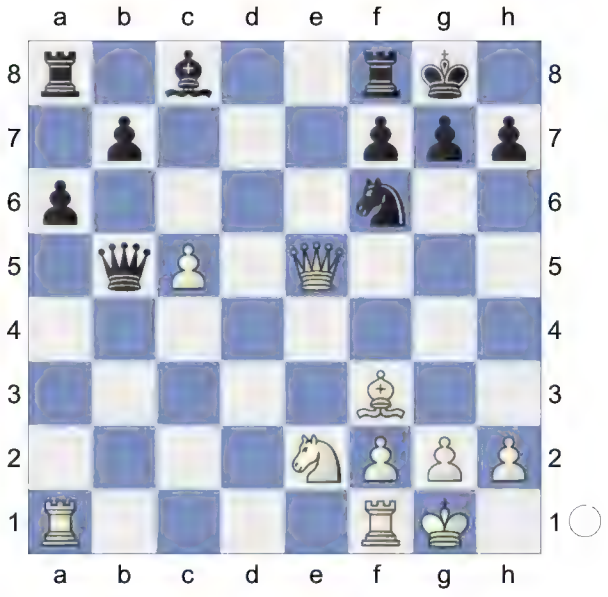


14.a5! Nxa5 15.dxc5 Bxc5

(Diagram)



16.b4! Nxc4
[16...Bxb4? is the wrong capture. 17.Be3 Bc5 18.Bxc5 Qxc5 19.Rxa5+-]
17.bxc5 Qxb5 18.Qd4 e5! 19.Bxe5 Nxe5 20.Qxe5 Nf6



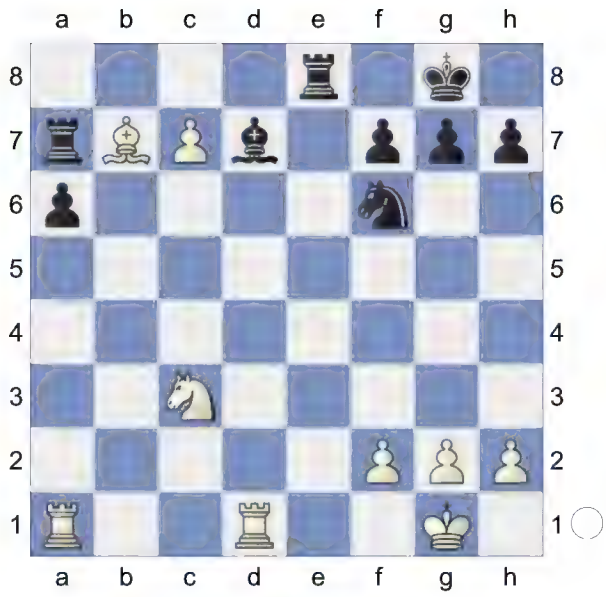
21.Nc3↑ White is pushing.
[21.Qc3!?]
21...Qe8 22.Qxe8 Rxe8 1.46/20
[22...Nxe8± 0.55/22 23.Rfb1 Ra7]

(Diagram)

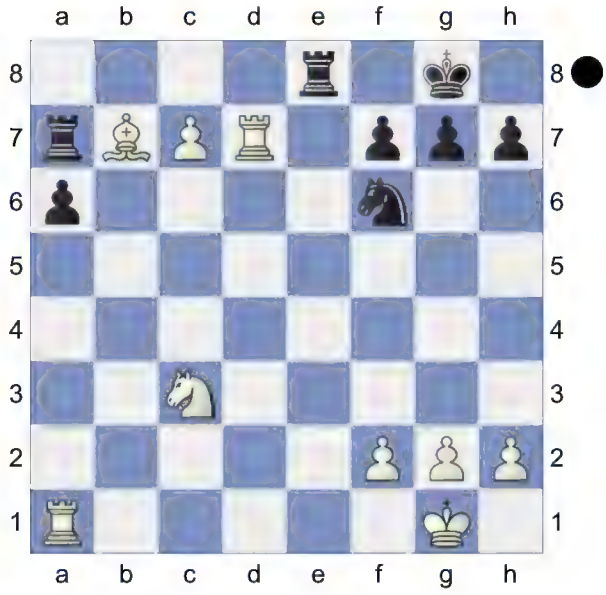
23.c6!± Rb8 2.30/21
[23...bxc6± 1.59/22 24.Bxc6 Be6 25.Bxe8 Nxe8]
24.c7+- Ra8 25.Rfd1 Threatens to win with Rd1-d8. **25...Bd7?** 6.73/25
[25...Nd7 2.12/21 26.Rab1 Kf8 27.Rxb7 *(27.Bxb7 Bxb7 28.Rxb7 g6+-)* 27...h5]

26.Bxb7 Ra7

(Diagram)



27.Rxd7!



Promotion.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.44. Loss on time!?
0-1

94 **C01**

□ **Larsen,Ingrid**

■ **Alexandria,Nana**

Olympiad Women-04 (11.2) 19.09.1969

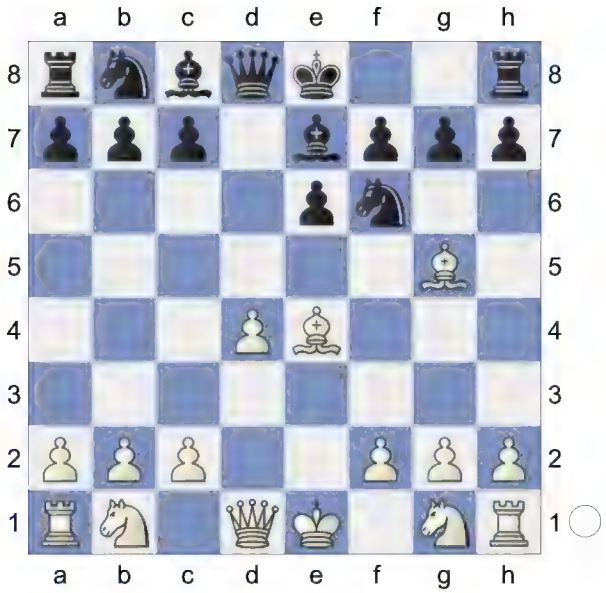
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent.' https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'We're gonna fast forward a few year and bunch of wins to 2024. A rematch with Bluebaum, so let's see how it went.' **1.d4 e6 2.e4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bg5**

[5.Bf3 c5 6.Ne2 Be7 7.Nbc3 0-0 8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 f5 *(17...Be3 18.Rd1 Re8 19.Rd7 h5 20.h3 h4 21.Kd1 Bf2 22.Rxa7 Bc4 23.a4 Be3 24.Rd7 Bd4 25.Re1 Ra8 26.Re4 Be6 27.Rdxd4 cxd4 28.Rxd4 g5 29.b3 Kg7 30.Rd6 Kf6 31.Rxc6 Ke5 32.Ke2* 1-0 (49) Onischuk,V (2609)-Bluebaum,M (2646) Titled Tue 8th Oct Late 2024 (4)*)* 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 Bc4 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4)]

5...Be7

(Diagram)



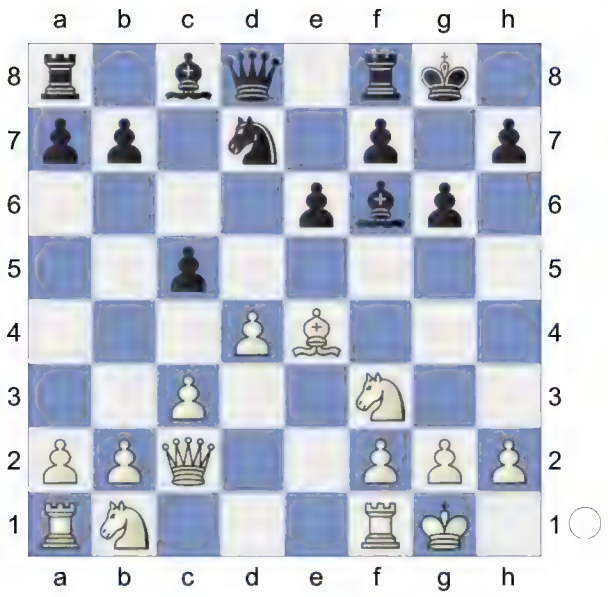
6.Bxf6 Bxf6 7.c3N

[7.Nf3 c5 8.c3 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Bxd4 10.cxd4 Nc6 11.Bxc6+ bxc6 12.0-0 0-0 13.Nc3 Bb7 14.Ne4 Qe7 15.Nc5 Rfd8 16.Qa4 a5 17.Rac1 Ba6 18.Nxa6 Rxa6 19.Rxc6 Rxc6 20.Qxc6 Rxd4 21.Qa8+ Qd8 1-0 (62) White plays Be3 (1906)-Katetov,M (1654) Chelyabinsk (rapid) 146/193 2020 (1) 22.Qxd8+ Rxd8 23.Rc1 h6 24.Kf1 Rd2 25.Rc8+ Kh7 26.Rb8 Kg6 27.g3 f5 28.Kg2 Kf6 29.a4 Ke7 30.b3 Rb2 31.h4 Kf6 32.Kf3 g5 33.hxg5+ hxg5 34.Ke3 f4+ 35.gxf4 gxf4+ 36.Kxf4 Rxf2+ 1-0 (62) Zanirato,S (1906)-Alfier,C (1654) Noale Szabados Memorial-B 5th 2012 (1)]

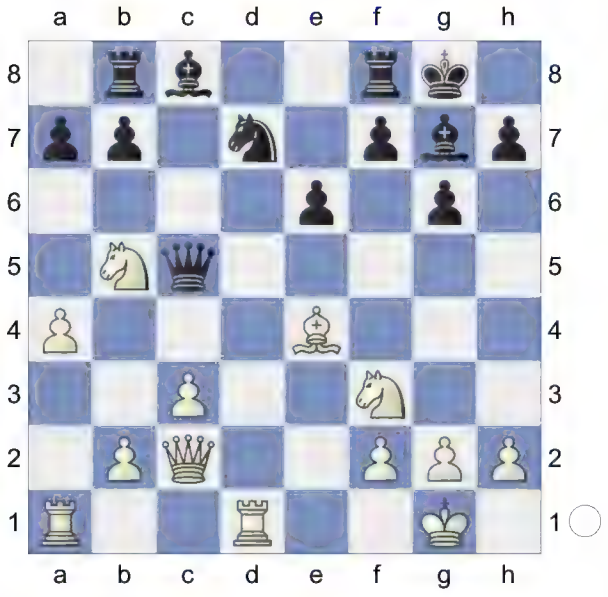
7...Nd7 8.Nf3 The position is equal.

8...c5 9.0-0 0-0 10.Qc2 g6

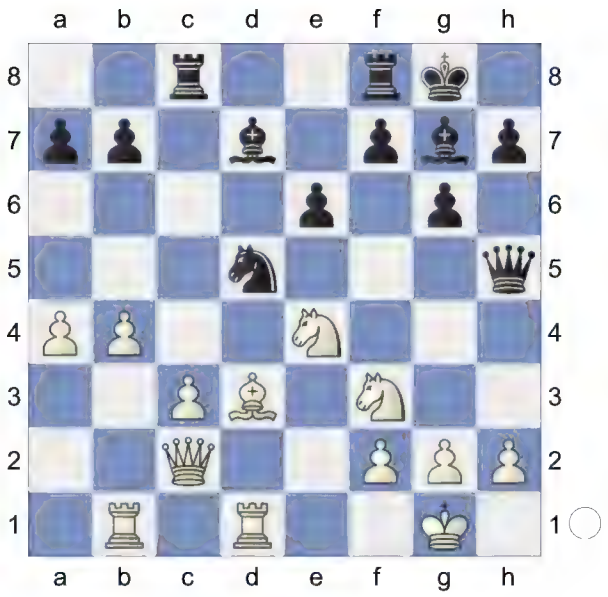
(Diagram)



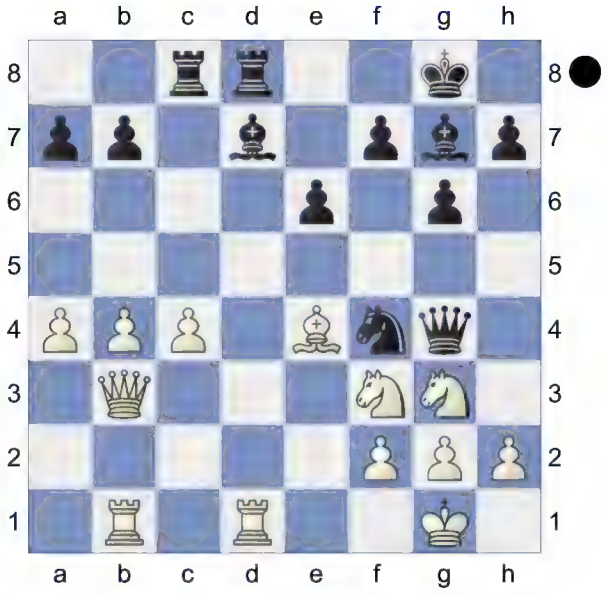
11.Rd1 Qc7 12.Na3 Rb8 13.Nb5 Qb6 14.a4 Bg7 0.46/19
[14...a6 15.a5 Qd8 *(15...Qxb5? 16.c4±)* 16.Nd6]
[14...cxd4= -0.18/20 15.Nbxd4 a6]
15.dxc5!± Qxc5



16.Nd6 -0.01/18
[16.b4± 0.36/20 Qe7 17.Nxa7]
16...Nf6 17.b4 Qh5 18.Bd3 -0.29/19
[⌓18.Rd4 0.26/18]
18...Nd5= 19.Ne4 Bd7 0.19/20
[Black should try 19...b6∓ -0.37/17]
20.Rab1 Rbc8

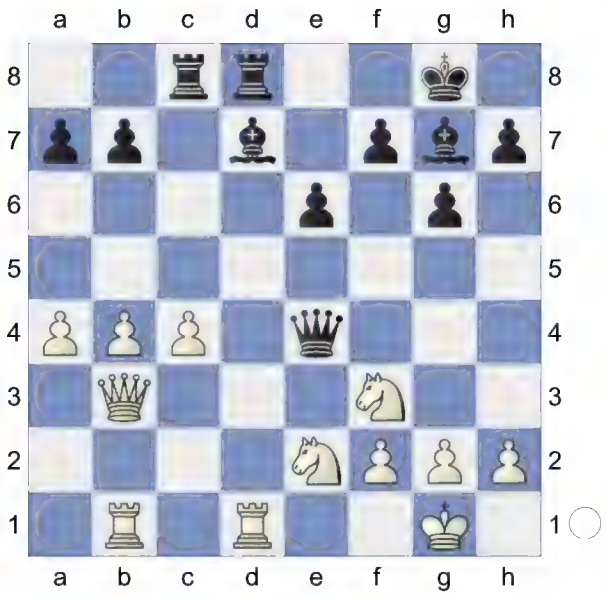


21.c4 Rfd8 22.Qb3 -0.56/19
[22.c5= 0.17/18]
22...Nf4∓ 23.Ng3 Qg4→ Black is up to no good. **24.Be4** -1.26/20
[24.Bc2∓ -0.55/20 Bc6 25.Rxd8+ Rxd8 26.Rd1]

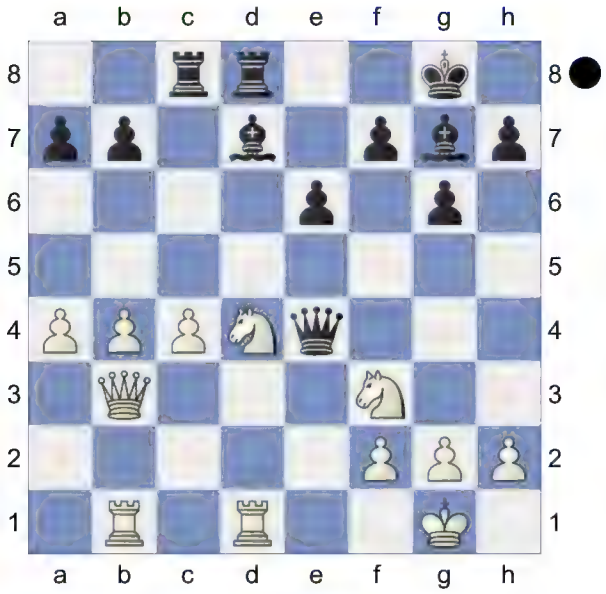


24...Ne2+!∓ Decoy **25.Nxe2 Qxe4**

(Diagram)

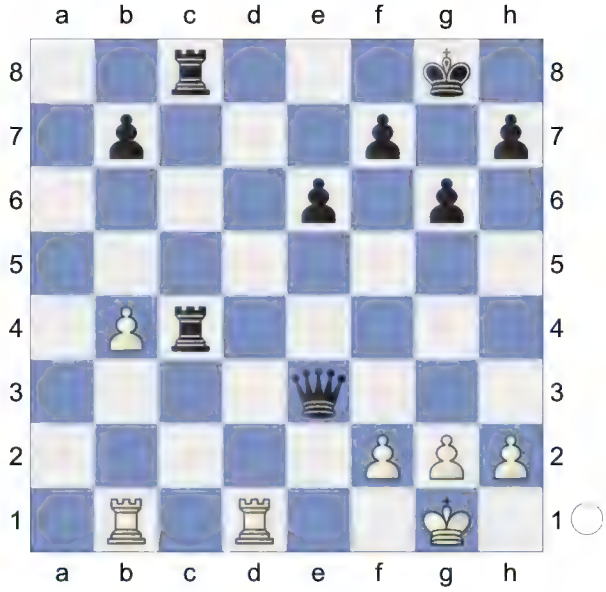


26.Ned4 -2.09/22
[26.Nfd4∓ -1.34/20 is a better defense.]



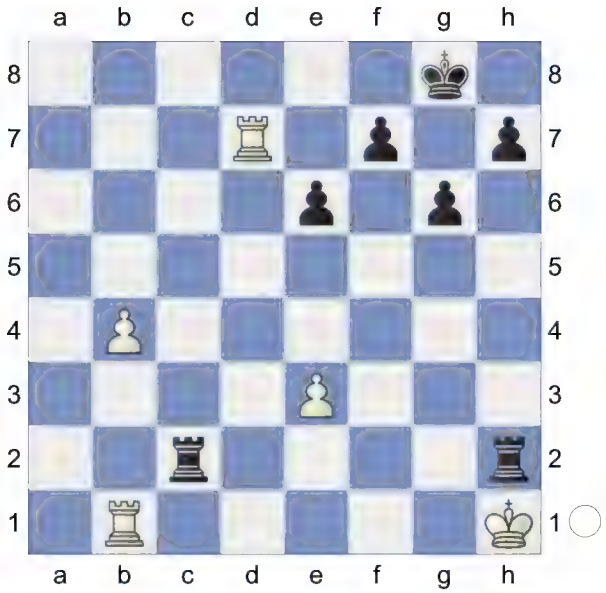
26...Bxa4! -1.18/21 **27.Qxa4** Threatens to win with Rd1-e1. **27...Bxd4** Black is more active. **28.Nxd4 Rxd4**
29.Qxa7 -1.63/24
[29.Rxd4∓ -0.87/20 Qxb1+ *(29...Qxd4 30.c5∓)* 30.Rd1]
29...Rdxc4 -1.22/22
[29...Rcxc4-+ -1.63/24 30.b5 Rxd1+ 31.Rxd1 Rb4]

30.Qe3 -2.11/21
[30.f3∓ -1.22/22 Qe2 31.Qxb7]
30...Qxe3-+
[Don't do 30...Rxb4 31.Qxe4 Rxe4 32.Rxb7∓]

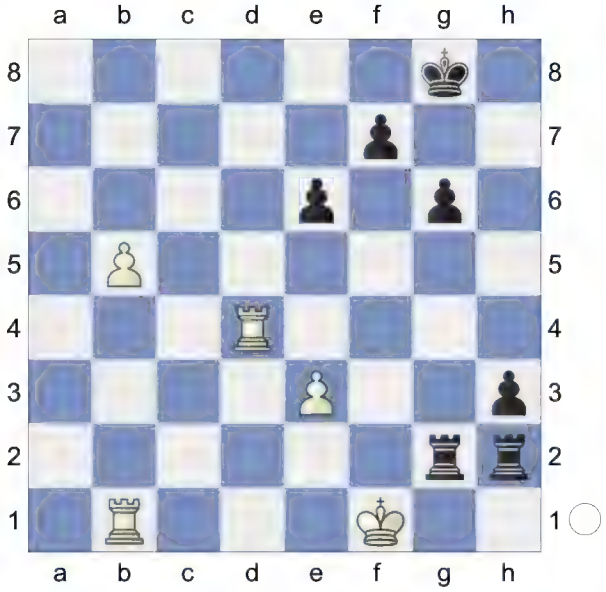


31.fxe3 Endgame. KRR-KRR **31...Rc2**
32.Rd7 Re2 -0.56/23
[Better is 32...R8c7∓ -1.44/24 33.Rbd1 Kg7]
33.Rxb7 -3.12/24 White does not recover from this.
[White has to play 33.Rf1∓ -0.56/23]
33...Rcc2!
[Not 33...Rxe3 34.Rf1∓]
34.Rd7? -11.99/25
[34.h4 -2.82/25]
34...Rxg2+ 35.Kh1 Rxh2+

(Diagram)



36.Kg1 h5 37.b5 h4 Black mates.
38.Rd4 Rcg2+ 39.Kf1 h3



Weighted Error Value: White=0.64/ Black=0.15 (very precise)
0-1

95 **C01**
□ **Wemmers,Carl**
■ **Blackburne,Joseph**
DSB-02.Kongress (7) 1881
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Bd6

6.Ne2 Nbd7 7.Nbc3
[7.0-0 0-0 8.Nbc3 e5 9.Bg5 h6 10.Bh4 Re8 11.Ne4 g5 12.Nxd6 cxd6 13.Bg3 e4 6) Odds and Ends-The Schlechter Variation The Aggressive French 2024]
7...c6 Repels Nc3-b5 **8.Bf4N** -0.20/20
[8.Ng3 0.23/17 is superior.]
[8.0-0 0-0 9.g3 e5 10.d5 cxd5 11.Nxd5 Nxd5 12.Bxd5 Nf6 13.Bg2 h6 14.Nc3 a6 15.Qe2 Qc7 16.Ne4 Nxe4 17.Bxe4 Bd7 18.Rd1 Bc6 19.c3 Bxe4 20.Qxe4 Rad8 21.Be3 Be7 22.a4 Rxd1+ 1-0 (55) Pichot,A (2638)-Urbina Perez,J (2274) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st Feb Late blitz 2023 (2)]
[8.Bg5 0-0 9.Qd2 Qc7 10.0-0-0

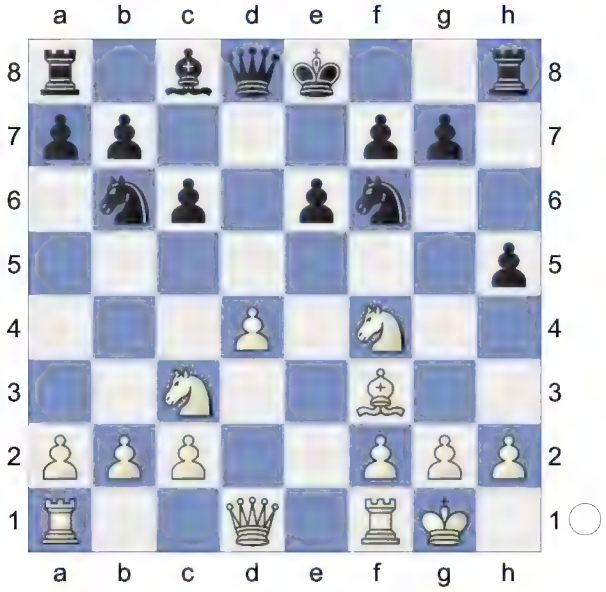
Re8 11.Rhe1 a5 12.g4 a4 13.a3 Ra5 14.h4 b6 15.Bf4 Ba6 16.Bxd6 Qxd6 17.g5 Nd5 18.Ne4 Qc7 19.Rg1 Bxe2 20.Bxe2 Qf4 21.Qxf4 Nxf4 22.Bf3 b5 ½-½ (29) Kulkarni,R (2332)-Sumets,A (2569) Rochefort op-A17th 2018 (2.2)]

[8.Ne4 Nxe4 9.Bxe4 0-0 10.c3 Qh4 11.Bf3 e5 12.dxe5 Bc5 13.0-0 Nxe5 14.Nd4 Bxd4 15.cxd4 Nxf3+ 16.Qxf3 Qxd4 17.Rd1 Qg4 18.Qxg4 Bxg4 19.f3 Be6 20.Be3 Rfc8 21.a3 c5 22.Rac1 b6 (50) Chapter-Games Chapter 26 Game 2]

8...Bxf4= 9.Nxf4 Nb6 0.27/18

[⌓9...Qb6 -0.28/17]

10.0-0 h5 0.69/18



11.Re1±

[11.Bxh5? Nxh5 *(11...g5 12.Bxf7+ Kxf7 13.Nd3∓)* 12.Nxh5 Qh4 13.Nxg7+ *(13.g4? g6-+)* 13...Ke7-+ *(13...Kf8 14.h3∓)*]

11...Nbd5 12.Ncxd5

[12.Nxh5 Nxh5 13.Bxh5 Qh4∓]

12...cxd5 13.c3 0.57/18

[13.Nxh5 Nxh5 14.Bxh5 Qh4∓]

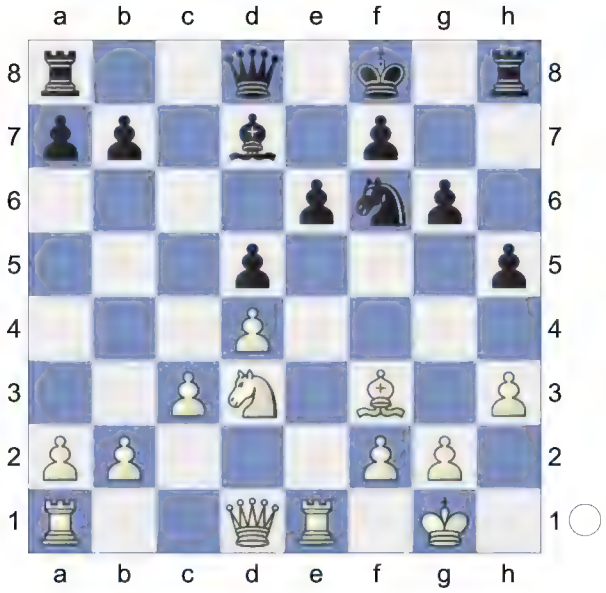
[13.Bxh5 Nxh5 14.Nxh5 Qh4∓]

[White should try 13.Re5± 1.07/18]

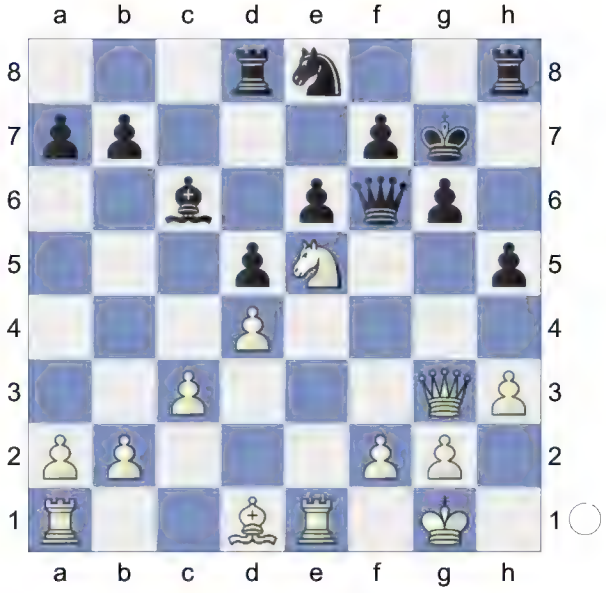
13...Kf8 14.h3

[14.Bxh5 Nxh5 *(14...g5? 15.Bxf7 gxf4 16.Bxe6-+)* 15.Nxh5 Qh4-+]

14...g6 15.Nd3 Bd7



16.Qd2 Kg7 17.Qf4 Ne8 18.Ne5 Qf6 19.Qg3 Bc6 20.Bd1 Rd8

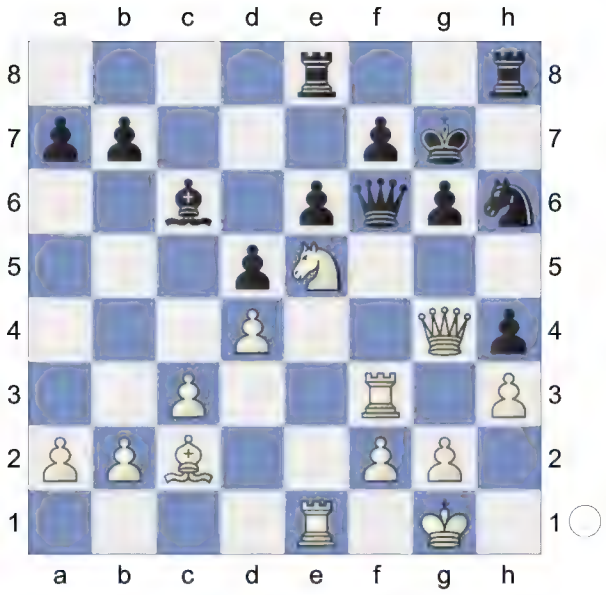


21.Bc2 Nd6 22.Rad1 h4 23.Qg4 aiming for Ne5xg6! **23...Rde8 24.Rd3 Nf5** 0.81/17

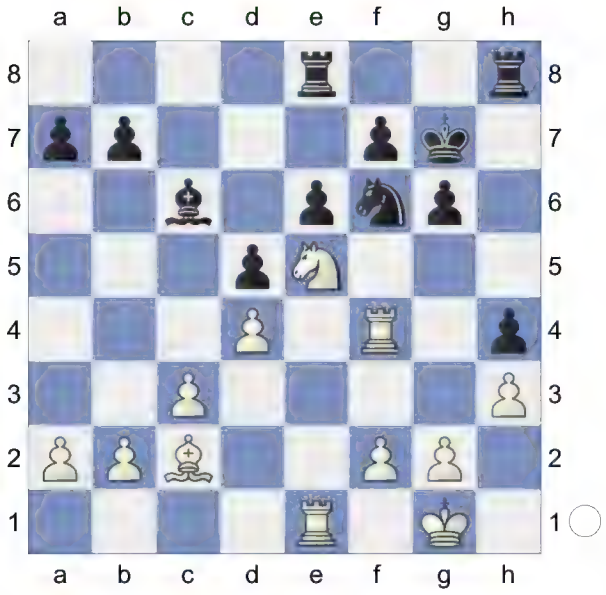
[24...Qf5± 0.41/18]

25.Rf3± Nh6? 10.69/21

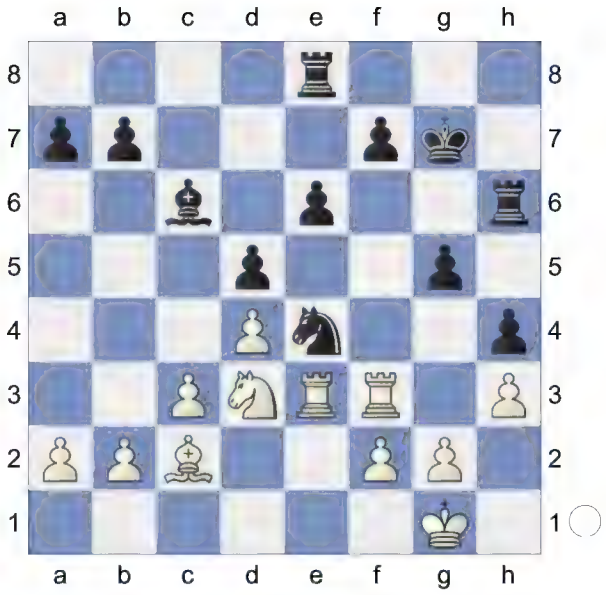
(Diagram)



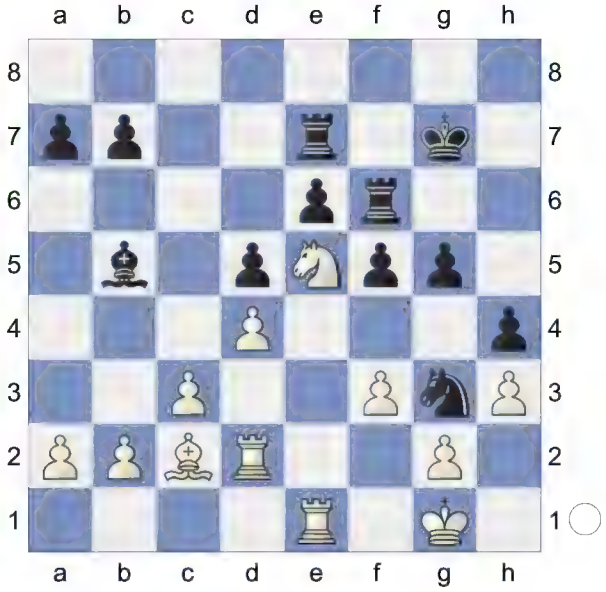
26.Rxf6+- Nxg4 27.Rf4? 0.02/22
[27.Rxf7++- 10.35/22 Kg8 28.hxg4]
27...Nf6? 1.65/21
[27...Nxe5= 0.02/22 and Black has nothing to worry. 28.dxe5 Ref8]



28.Re3! Rh6 2.38/21
[⌓28...g5 1.72/24 29.Rxf6 Kxf6]
29.Nd3? 0.01/20
[29.Rxf6+- 2.38/21 Kxf6 30.Rf3+ Kg7 31.Rxf7+ Kg8 32.Rc7 *(32.Bxg6? Rxg6 33.Rf4 Rh6-+)*]
29...g5 30.Rff3 Ne4

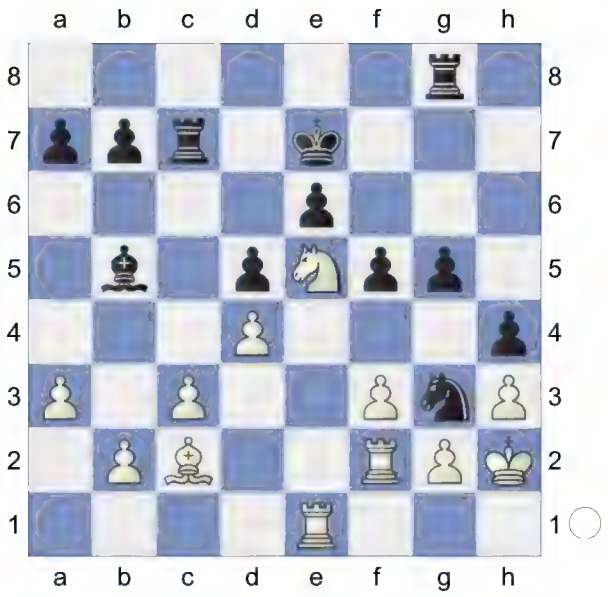


31.Ne5 f5 32.Re1 Rf6 33.Rd3 Re7 34.f3 Ng3 35.Rd2 Bb5



36.a3 Rf8 37.Rf2 Kf6 38.Kh2 Rg8 39.Kg1 Rc7 40.Kh2 Ke7

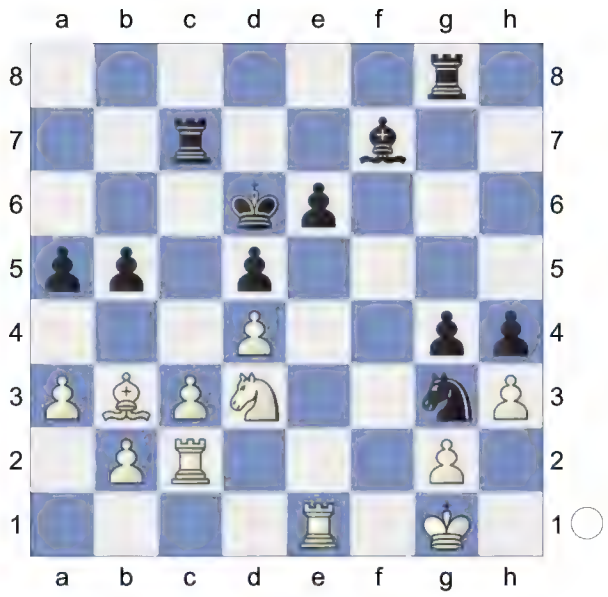
(Diagram)



41.Kg1 Kd6
[41...Be8 simplifies 42.Bd3 Nh5 43.c4 dxc4 44.Bxc4 Nf4]
42.Kh2 Nh5 43.Kh1 Be8 44.Kh2 Ng3 45.Kg1 Bh5

46.Bd1 b5 47.Nd3 a5 48.Bb3 Bf7 49.Rc2 -0.50/23
[49.Kh2= 0.01/18]
49...g4∓
[49...a4!? 50.Ba2□ Re7=]
50.fxg4 fxg4

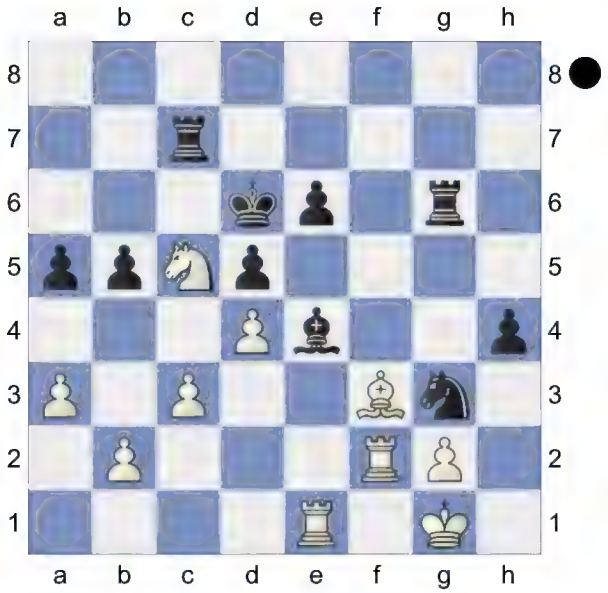
(Diagram)



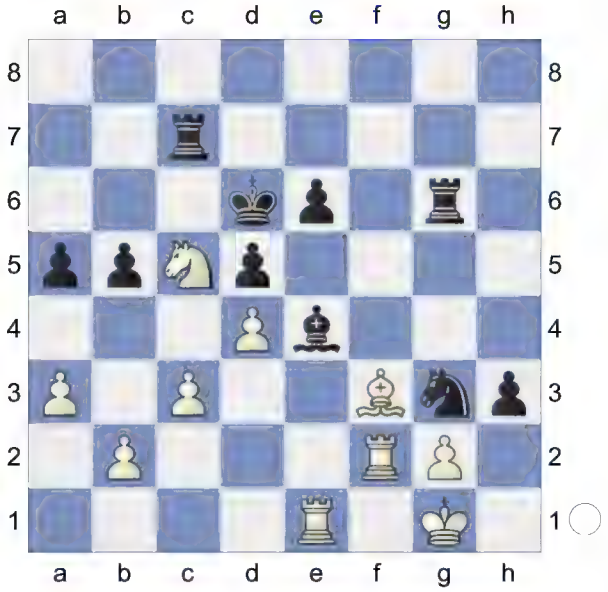
51.hxg4 Bg6 0.01/23
[51...a4!∓ -0.57/20 52.Ba2 Bg6 *(52...Rxg4 53.Ne5=)*]

52.Nc5!= Be4
[52...Ne4 53.Rce2]
53.Rf2 Hoping for Rf2-f6. **53...Rxg4 54.Bd1 Rg6 55.Bf3** -1.27/21
[Better is 55.Rf8!= 0.23/19]

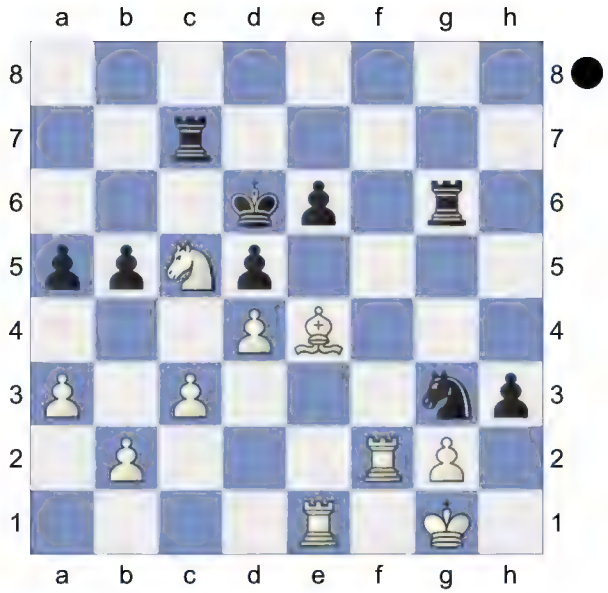
(Diagram)



55...h3 -0.85/23
[⌓55...Bf5! -1.27/21 56.Rd2 Rh7]



56.Bxe4?? -#3/8
[56.Nxe4+? too greedy. dxe4 57.Kh2 *(57.Bxe4? gets mated. h2+ Decoy 58.Kxh2 Rh7+ 59.Kg1 Rh1#)* 57...exf3-+]
[56.gxh3∓ -0.85/23 Bxf3 Remove Defender 57.Rxf3 Ne4+ 58.Kh2 Nxc5 59.Rg3 Rxg3 60.dxc5+ Kxc5 61.Kxg3]



What a bad dream for White.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) /Black=0.18 (very precise)
0-1

96 **C01**
□ **Cray,C W**
■ **Butter,Malcolm J**
GBR corr 1890
[Fraser]

Myers: This is Game #26 published in a book called "A Selection of 200 Games of Chess, Played by Correspondence, with Notes and Critical Remarks by Geo. B. Fraser, Dundee." GBF includes this short preface: "The Games which follow are selected from various Correspondence Tourneys organized under my Conductorship, between the years 1887 and 1896. With few exceptions, none of them have hitherto appeared in print. A large majority will be found to exhibit a pleasing liveliness and animation somewhat unusual in Chess by correspondence." A fair

number of these games (33) were played by GBF himself, so it is evident that he was both an avid correspondence player and an early organizer of correspondence chess events. (GBF was also an active OTB player, mainly in Scotland. For example, GBF finished a respectable second in the 1st Scottish Championship, played in Glasgow in 1884, just a half-point behind the winner.) It is not known whether the games are printed in any particular order, and no dates are provided for the games individually. I have somewhat arbitrarily assigned a date of 1890 to each game, for database purposes. **1.e4** Myers Fraser **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.dxc5 Bxc5 5.exd5 exd5**

6.Nf3 Qb6? Fraser: Premature. He ought rather to develop on the King's side and castle.

[⌓6...Nf6 Fraser 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bg5 Be6 9.Nc3 Nbd7 10.Qd2 a6 11.Ne2 Qb6 12.c3 Ne4 13.Bxe4 dxe4 14.Nfd4 Bc4 15.Be3 Rad8 16.b4 Bxd4 17.Bxd4 Qg6 18.Nf4 Qg5 19.Rfe1 Ne5 20.Kh1 Nd3 21.Rxe4 f5 22.Bf6 Qxf6 23.Rxc4 Nxb4 24.Qe2 Rfe8 25.Qf3 Nc6 26.Rd1 Ne5 27.Rxd8 Qxd8 28.Qe2 Nxc4 29.Qxc4+ Kh8 30.h3 Re4 31.Qd5 Qxd5 32.Nxd5 Re2 0-1 Barnes,T-Staunton,H/London ENG 1856/]

[⌓6...Nc6 Myers 7.0-0 Nge7 8.Nbd2 0-0 9.Nb3 Bb6 10.c3 h6 11.h3 Qd6 12.Re1 Bxh3 13.gxh3 Qg3+ 14.Kh1 Bxf2 15.Bf1 Nf5 16.Qd3 Nh4 17.Bf4 Qxf4 18.Nxh4 Qxh4 19.Re2 Rad8 20.Bg2 Bb6 21.Rf1 Rd6 22.Nd2 Rfd8 23.Rf5 g6 24.Rf1 Rf6 25.Rxf6 Qxf6 26.Nf3 d4 27.cxd4 Nxd4 28.Nxd4 Rxd4 29.Qb3 Qd6 30.Re8+ Kg7 31.Qc3 Bc7 32.Kg1 Qh2+ 33.Kf1 Be5 34.Qe3 0-1 Lucaci,M-Kindermann,S/Vienna OST 2003/]

[⌓6...Ne7 Fraser 7.0-0 0-0 8.c3 h6 9.Nbd2 Nbc6 10.Nb3 Bd6 11.h3 a6 12.Nbd4 Bc7 13.Be3 Qd6 14.Ne2 Ng6 15.Ng3 f5 16.Bd4 f4 17.Ne2 Nce7 18.c4 Nf5 19.cxd5 Ngh4 20.Nxh4 Nxh4 21.f3 Bf5 22.Bxf5 Nxf5 23.Bf2 Rae8 24.Nc3 Ne3 25.Qb3 Kh8 26.Ne4 Rxe4 27.fxe4 f3 28.g3 Qg6 29.Qxe3 Bxg3 30.Kh1 Qh5 0-1 Drtina,M-Tibensky,R/Trnava CSR 1985/]

7.0-0! Ne7

[7...Nf6 8.Nc3 Bd7 9.Bg5 0-0 10.Bxf6 Qxf6 11.Nxd5 Qd6 12.Nc3 Bg4 13.Bxh7+ Kh8 14.Qxd6 Bxd6 15.Be4 Nc6 16.h3 Be6 17.Bxc6 bxc6 18.Nd4 Bd7 19.Rad1 Be5 20.Na4 Rab8 21.Nf3 Bf5 22.Nxe5 Bxc2 23.Rd4 Rbc8 24.Rc1 Bxa4 25.Rxa4 Rfe8 26.Nxf7+ Kg8 27.Nd6 Kf8 28.Rxa7 Rcd8 29.Nxe8 Rxe8 30.Rxc6 Kg8 31.Rcc7 Kf8 32.Rxg7 Re1+ 33.Kh2 Re8 34.Rh7 Kg8 35.Rag7+ Kf8 36.Rh8+ Kxg7 37.Rxe8 Kf6 38.a4 Kf7 39.Re3 Kf6 40.a5 Kf5 41.a6 Kf4 42.a7 Kf5

43.a8Q Kf6 44.Qf8+ Kg6 45.Rg3+ Kh7 46.Rg7+ Kh6 47.Qf6+ Kh5 48.g4# 1-0 Bissbort,J-Lux,T/Vaihingen U18 GER 2003/]

[7...Nc6 8.c3 Nge7 9.Nbd2 Bg4 10.h3 Bh5 11.Be2 Bg6 12.Nb3 Bd6 13.Be3 Qc7 14.Nbd4 a6 15.Bd3 0-0 16.Re1 Ne5 17.Nxe5 Bxe5 18.Nf3 Bd6 19.Bg5 Nc6 20.Bxg6 hxg6 21.Qxd5 Bf4 22.Qc4 Bxg5 23.Nxg5 1-0 Marino,T-Lievens,F/St Affrique FRA 2002/]

8.c3?!

[⌓8.Nc3! Fraser Bd7 9.Ne5 Qf6 10.Nxd7 Nxd7 11.Qe2 0-0 12.Be3 Rad8 13.Rae1 d4 14.Ne4 Qb6 15.Bg5 f6 16.Nxc5 Nxc5 17.Qxe7 Rde8 18.Bc4+ Ne6 19.Rxe6 Rxe7 20.Rxf6+ Ref7 21.Rxb6 axb6 22.Re1 h6 23.Be7 Kh8 1-0 Finlayson,J-Mitchell,J/corr GBR 1885/]

8...0-0 9.b4?!

[9.Nbd2!?]

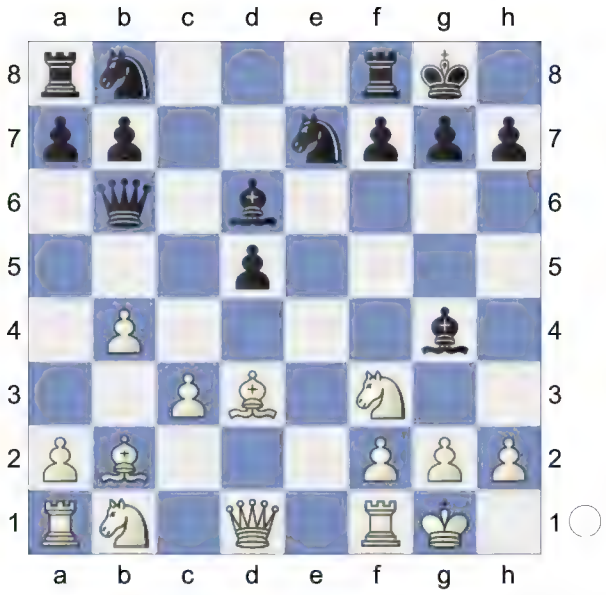
9...Bd6 10.Bb2?!

[10.Na3!?]

10...Bg4?

[10...a5!?=]

(Diagram)



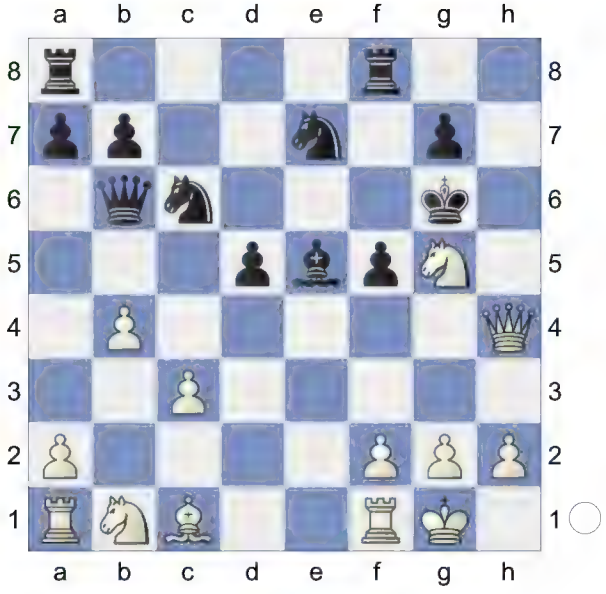
11.Bxh7+! Kxh7 12.Ng5+ Kg6 13.Qxg4 f5 14.Qh4 Be5?

[14...Nd7!? 15.Qh7+ Kf6 16.Re1± Myers]

15.Bc1?!

[15.Nd2!]

15...Nbc6



16.Nf3 Bf6 17.Qg3+

[17.Bg5!?]

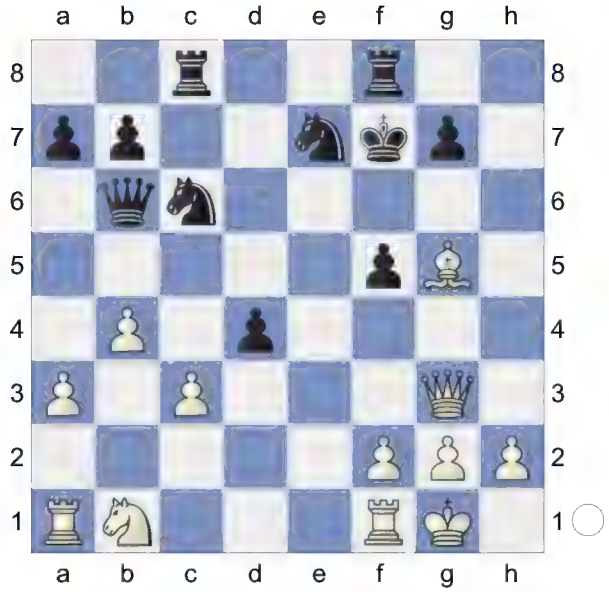
17...Kf7 18.Ng5+ Bxg5

[18...Kg8!?]

19.Bxg5 d4 20.a3

[20.Na3!?]

20...Rac8

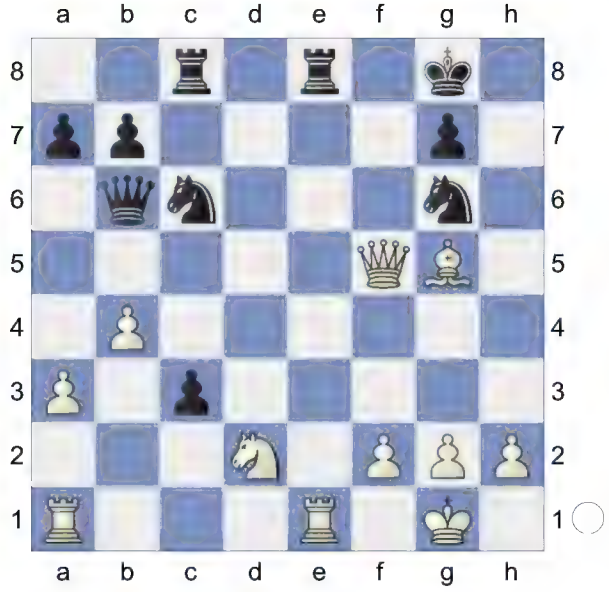


21.Re1 Ng6

[21...Nd5!?]

22.Qd6! Rfe8 23.Qd5+ Kf8 24.Qxf5+ Kg8 25.Nd2! dxc3?

[25...Nce5!?]



26.Ne4

[26.Rxe8+! Rxe8 27.Qxg6 Rf8 28.Ne4 Nd4 29.Qxb6 axb6 30.Nxc3+- Myers]

26...Nce7

[26...Nce5!?]

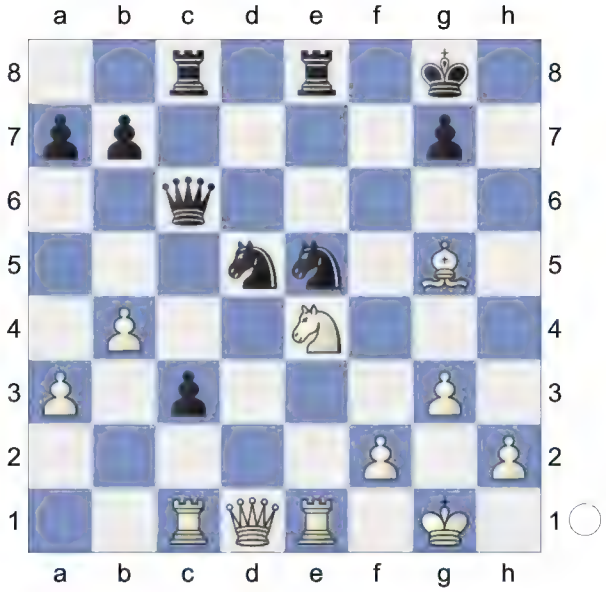
27.Qf3

[27.Bxe7! Nxe7 28.Qe5 Ng6 29.Qd5+ Kh8 30.Nxc3 Nf4 31.Qf3 Rf8 32.Nd5+- Myers]

27...Qc7 28.Rac1! Nd5 29.g3?

[29.Qf5! Ne5 30.Red1 Qf7 31.Nd6 Qxf5 32.Nxf5 Nf7 33.Rxd5 Nxg5 34.Rd7+- Myers]

29...Ne5! 30.Qd1 Qc6!



31.h3?

[31.b5!? Qd7 32.Bf4 Nc4 33.h3 Nb2 34.Qf3 Nxf4 35.gxf4 Qd4 36.f5 Nd3 37.f6↑ Myers]

31...Rf8?

[31...c2!? Fraser 32.Rxc2 Qxc2 33.Qxd5+ Kh8 34.Kg2 Nd3 35.Re3 Rxe4 36.Qxd3 Rxe3 37.Qxe3= Myers]

[31...Re6!? 32.b5 Qxb5 33.Nd6 Rxd6 34.Rxe5 Qc4 35.Qc2 b5 36.Rd1 a5 37.Bf4 Rcd8= Myers]

32.f4!? Nf7?

[32...c2!? 33.Rxc2 Nf3+ 34.Qxf3 Qxc2 35.f5 Rce8 36.f6 Rf7 37.Re2 Qc4 38.Kh2 Re5= Myers]

33.Qg4

[33.Qd3!?]

33...Qb6+?

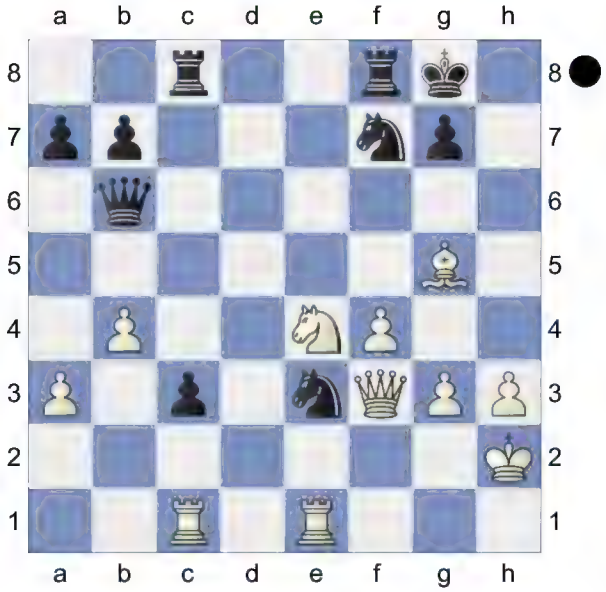
[33...Rce8!?]

34.Kh2 Ne3?

[34...Rce8!?]

35.Qf3

[35.Qf3 Nf5! 36.g4 Nd4 37.Qd3 Ne6 38.Be7 Nxf4 39.Qg3 Rfe8 40.Qxf4 Rxe7 41.Nf6+ Qxf6 42.Qxf6 Rxe1 43.Qf5 Re2+ 44.Kg1 Rce8 45.Rxc3+- Myers]



1-0

97 **C01**

□ **Capablanca,Jose**

■ **Ribera Arnal,Angel**

Madrid ESP (1) 01.01.1935

[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c6**

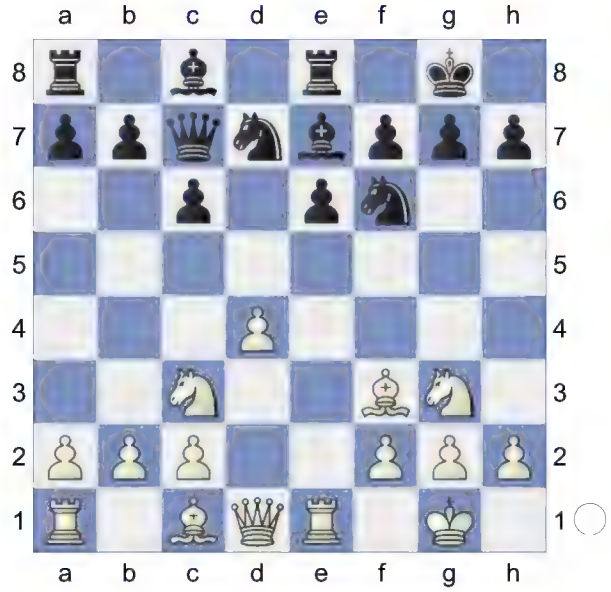
[5...c5 6.Ne2 Be7 7.Nbc3 *(7.Be3 0-0 8.dxc5 Qc7 9.0-0 Rd8 10.Qc1 Bxc5 11.Nbc3 Na6 12.a3 Bd7 13.Ng3 Bd6 14.Rd1 Be5 15.Bd4 Nc5 16.Qe3 Bxd4 17.Rxd4 Rac8 18.Rad1 b6 19.h3 Be8 20.Qd2 Rxd4 21.Qxd4 h6* ½-½ (83) Nguyen,M (2052)-Esipenko,A (2695) Titled Tuesday intern op 04th Feb Early blitz 2025 (3) *)* 7...0-0 8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 f5 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 Bc4 20.b3 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4)]

6.Ne2 Be7N

[6...Bd6 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Nd2 0-0 9.Nc4 Bc7 10.Bf4 Nb6 11.Ne5 Nfd5 12.Bg3 Qe7 13.c3 f5 14.Bxd5 Nxd5 15.Qc1 g5 16.f4 Bxe5 17.dxe5 g4 18.c4 Nc7 19.Qe3 Na6 20.Rfd1 Qc5 21.Qxc5 1-0 (52) Lasker,E-Blackburne,J London (8) Nxc5

22.Nc3 b6 23.Rd6 Ba6 24.b3 Rad8 25.Rad1 Nb7 26.Rxe6 Rxd1+ 27.Nxd1 Rd8 28.Ne3 Rd3 29.Nxf5 Rd1+ 30.Kf2 Nc5 31.Rd6 Ne4+ 32.Ke2 Rxd6 33.exd6 Nf6 34.Nh6+ Kf8 35.Bh4 Nd7 36.Be7+ 1-0 (52) Lasker,E-Blackburne,J Match Lasker - Blackburne 1892 Ke8 37.Nxg4 b5 38.cxb5 Bxb5+ 39.Kd2 c5 40.Kc3 h5 41.Ne3 Nb6 42.h3 Bc6 43.g4 hxg4 44.hxg4 Nd5+ 45.Nxd5 Bxd5 46.f5 Kd7 47.Kd3 a5 48.g5 Bc6 49.g6 Bf3 50.Ke3 Bh5 51.Ke4 1-0 (52) Sierra Vallina,L-6.0-0 a5 7.Re1 0-0 8.Nbd2 - P FIDE WCh KO, (4.3) 1999]

7.0-0 0-0 8.Nbc3 Nbd7 9.Ng3 Qc7 10.Re1 The position is equal. **10...Re8**

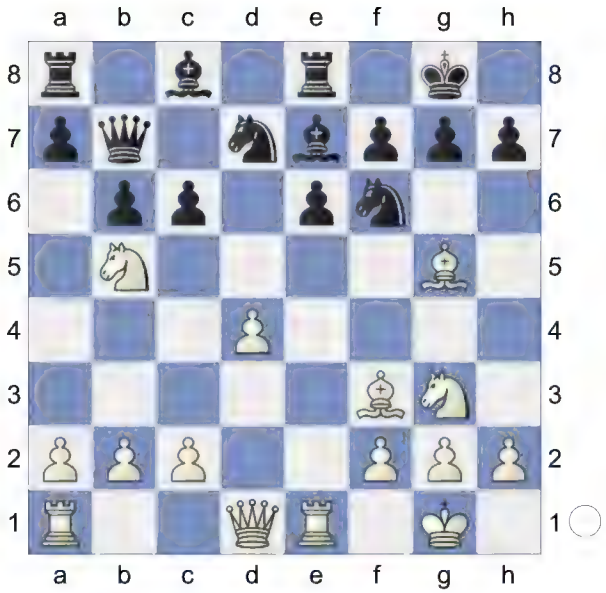


11.Bg5 b6 1.02/19

[11...Bd6= 0.18/17]

12.Nb5± Pin **12...Qb7**

(Diagram)

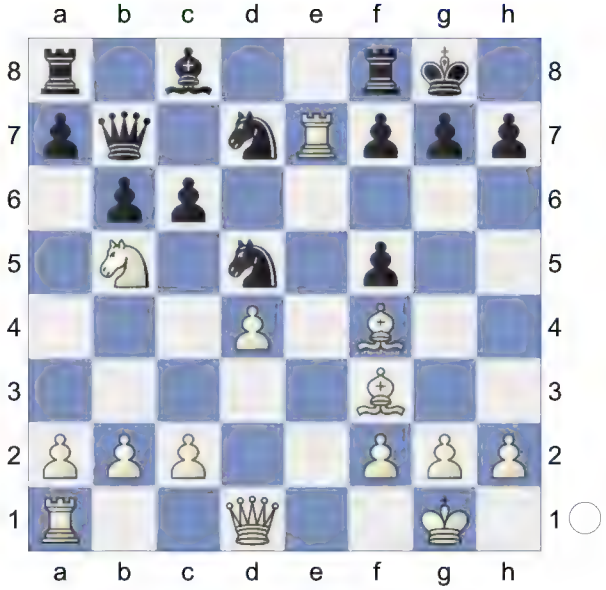


13.Bf4! White is much more active. **13...Rf8** 1.95/19

[13...Nf8± 1.30/19]

14.Nf5!+- exf5 15.Rxe7 Nd5 3.01/20

[15...Ne4 1.91/19 is a better defense.]



16.Nd6 Qa6 17.Bxd5 cxd5 Black is weak on the dark squares **18.a4**

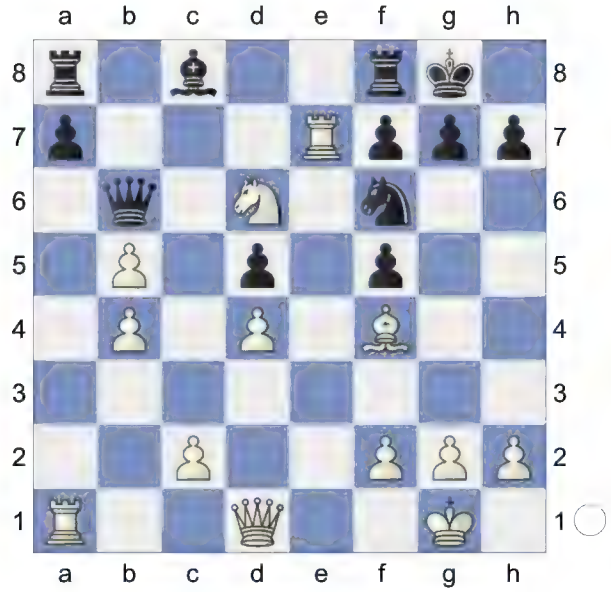
[18.Nxf5 Nf6+-]

18...Nf6 19.b4 And now b4-b5 would win. **19...b5 20.axb5**

[20.Nxb5 Qc6 21.Nc7 *(21.Nxa7*

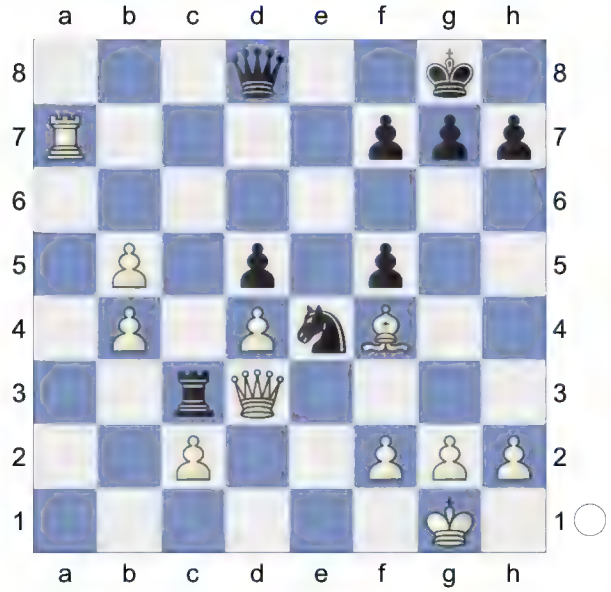
Qb6+-; 21.Rxa7 Rxa7 22.Nxa7 Qc3+-) 21...Qb7+-]

20...Qb6



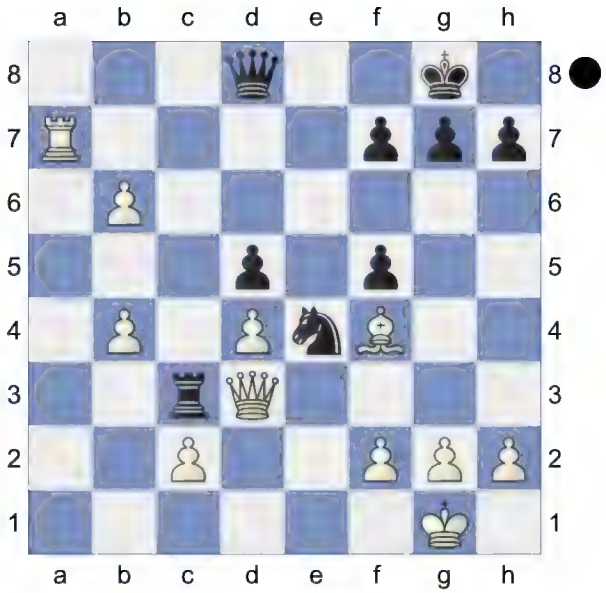
21.Qd3 Ne4 22.Nxc8 Rfxc8 23.Ra6 Qd8 24.Raxa7 Rxa7 25.Rxa7 Rc3? 10.75/22

[25...g6 3.39/20 26.Be5 f6]



26.b6!

(Diagram)



Black got outplayed after the opening.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.34

1-0

98 **C01**

□ **Kaufman**

■ **Reti**

L.de pag.59 Neustadt 1915

[Komodo 9.02 64-bit (15s)]

C01: French: Exchange Variation

1.e4 Neishtadt,Yakov **1...e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 c5 4.exd5**

[4.Nf3 Neishtadt,Yakov Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.exd5 Nxd5 7.Ne2 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.c3 b6]

4...Qxd5

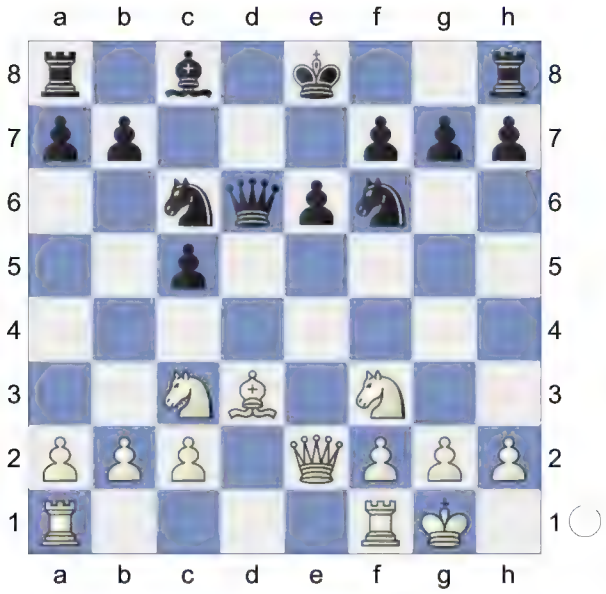
[4...exd5 Neishtadt,Yakov]

5.Nc3 Qxd4

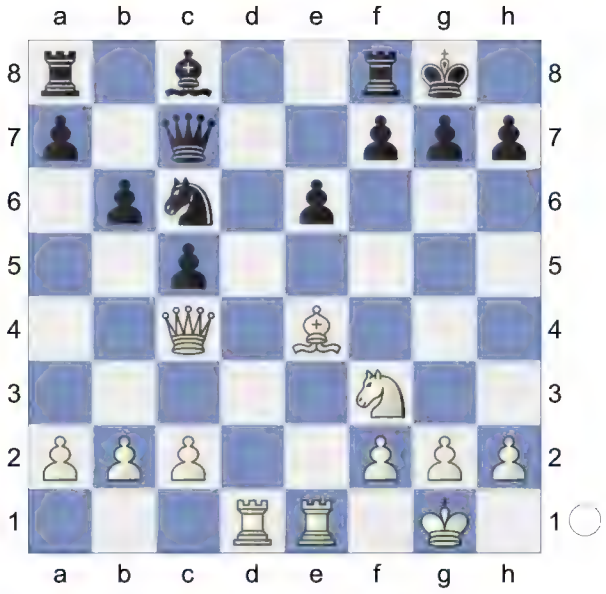
[5...Qxg2 Neishtadt,Yakov 6.Be4]

(Diagram)

6.Nf3 Qd8 7.Bf4 Nf6 8.Qe2
last book move. Black is behind in developement **8...Nc6 9.0-0 Bd6 10.Bxd6 Qxd6**

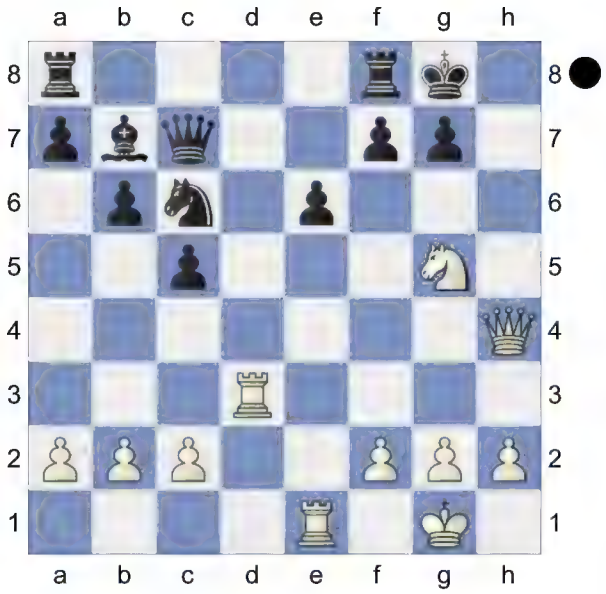


White has an active position **11.Rad1 Qf4**
[11...Qe7 Neishtadt,Yakov]
[11...0-0 Neishtadt,Yakov 12.Bxh7+]
12.Ne4 Nxe4 13.Bxe4 0-0
Black castles and improves king safety
[13...Bd7 Neishtadt,Yakov 14.Rfe1 0-0-0 15.Qb5]
14.Rfe1 Qc7 15.Qc4 b6?
[15...Ne7 16.Ne5=]



16.Rd3?? White has let it slip away
[⌓16.Qa4 b5 17.Qxb5+-]
[16.Bxh7+ Neishtadt,Yakov Kxh7 17.Qh4+ Kg8 *(17...Kg6 18.Qg5+ Kh7 19.Qh5+)* 18.Ng5 Rd8 19.Qh7+ Kf8 20.Qh8+ Ke7 21.Qxg7 Rf8 *(21...Rxd1 22.Qxf7+ Kd8 23.Qf8+ Kd7 24.Rxd1+ Nd4 25.c3)* 22.Nh7 Rd8 *(22...Bb7 23.Rxe6+ Kxe6 24.Qf6#; 22...Bd7 23.Qf6+ Ke8 24.Nxf8 Kxf8 25.Qh8+ Ke7 26.Qxa8)* 23.Qg5+ *(23.Qf6+ Ke8)* 23...Ke8 24.Nf6+ *(24.Qg8+ Ke7 25.Qg5+)* 24...Kf8 *(24...Ke7 25.Nd5+)* 25.Qg8+ *(25.Nh7+ Ke8 26.Qg8+ Ke7)* 25...Ke7 26.Nd5+ Rxd5 27.Rxd5
A) 27...Bb7 28.Qg5+ Kf8 *(28...Ke8 29.Rxe6+ fxe6 30.Qg8+ Ke7 31.Qg7+ Ke8 32.Qxc7)* 29.Qh6+ Ke8 30.Rxe6+ fxe6 31.Qh8+ Ke7 32.Qg7+ Ke8 33.Qxc7;
B) 27...Qf4]
16...Bb7??
[⌓16...h6 saving the game 17.Red1

Rb8 18.Bxc6 Qxc6=]
[16...f5 Neishtadt,Yakov 17.Bxc6 Qxc6 18.Ng5 Re8 19.Rde3 Bb7 20.f3 Qd5]
17.Bxh7+!+- a brilliant end **17...Kxh7 18.Qh4+ Kg8**
[18...Kg6 doesn't improve anything 19.Qg5+ Kh7 20.Qh5+ Kg8 21.Ng5 Rfc8 22.Qh7+ Kf8 23.Qh8+ Ke7 24.Rxe6+ fxe6 25.Qxg7+ Ke8 26.Qg8+ Ke7 27.Qf7#]
19.Ng5
[19.Ng5 Rfb8 *(19...Rfd8* Neishtadt, Yakov *20.Qh7+ Kf8 21.Qh8+ Ke7 22.Rxe6+ fxe6 23.Qxg7+ Ke8 24.Qg8+ Ke7 25.Qf7#)* 20.Qh7+ Kf8 21.Qh8+ Ke7 22.Rxe6+ fxe6 23.Qxg7+ Ke8 24.Qg8+ Ke7 25.Qf7#]

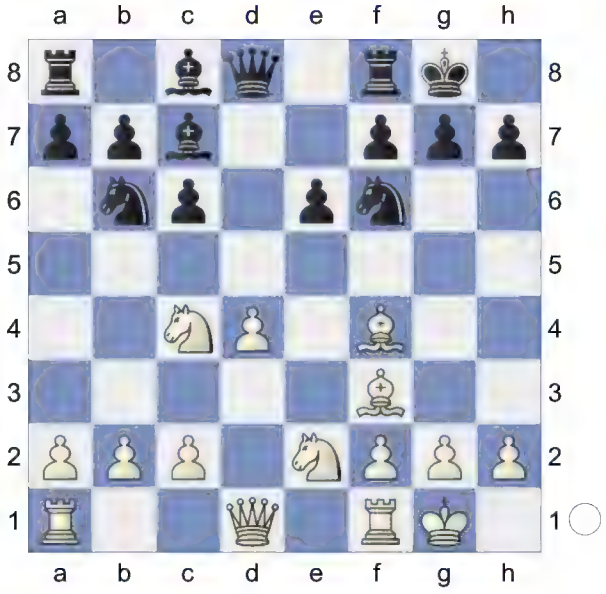


1-0

99 **C01**
□ **Lasker,Emanuel**
■ **Blackburne,Joseph Henry**
Match GBR London (8) 10.06.1892
[Kitty Kat]

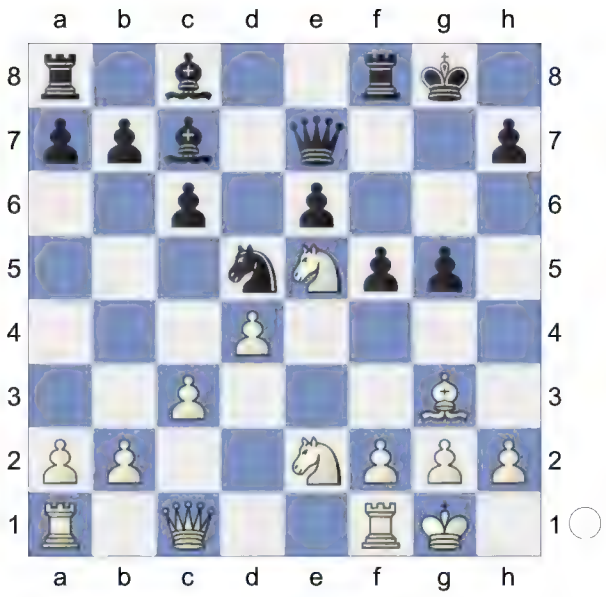
C01: French: Exchange Variation https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c6N**
[5...c5 6.Ne2
A) 6...Be7 7.Nbc3 *(7.Be3 0-0 8.dxc5 Qc7 9.0-0 Rd8 10.Qc1 Bxc5 11.Nbc3 Na6 12.a3 Bd7 13.Ng3 Bd6 14.Rd1 Be5 15.Bd4 Nc5 16.Qe3 Bxd4 17.Rxd4 Rac8 18.Rad1 b6 19.h3 Be8 20.Qd2 Rxd4 21.Qxd4 h6* ½-½ (83) Nguyen,M (2052)-Esipenko,A (2695) Titled Tuesday intern op 04th Feb Early blitz 2025 (3)*)* 7...0-0 8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 f5 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 Bc4 20.b3 Ba6 21.Kd1 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4);
B) 6...Nc6 7.Be3 Nd5 8.Bxd5 Qxd5 9.Nbc3 Qxg2 10.Rg1 Qxh2 11.Bf4 Qh5 12.Nb5 40) 1.e4 e6 French: 3...dxe4-French: 3...dxe4 with 6...Nc6]

6.Ne2 Bd6 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Nd2 The position is equal. **8...0-0 9.Nc4 Bc7 10.Bf4 Nb6**

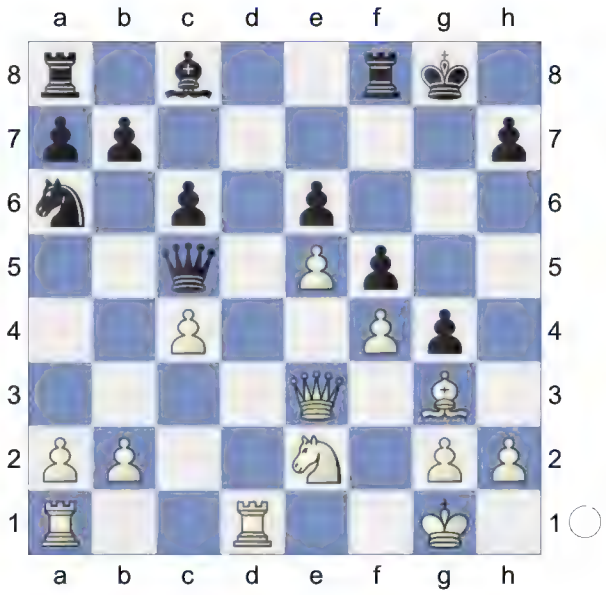


11.Ne5 Nfd5 12.Bg3 Qe7 13.c3 f5 14.Bxd5 0.37/18
[14.h3± 0.77/19]
14...Nxd5± 15.Qc1 Dodges f5-f4 **15...g5** 0.75/20
[15...c5= 0.29/18]

(Diagram)

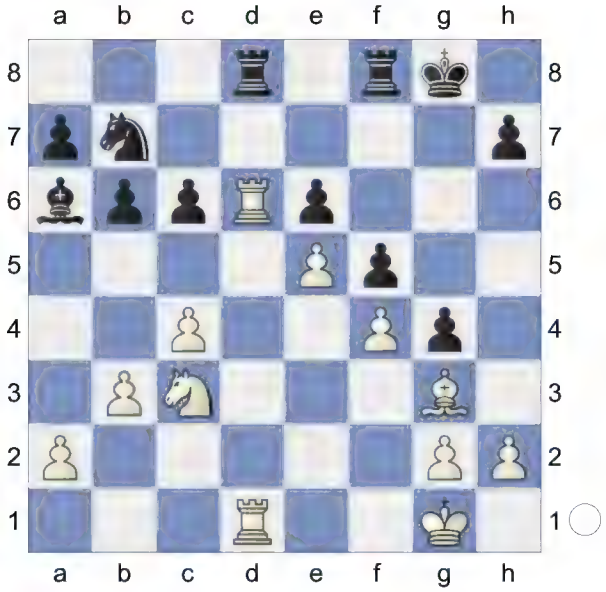


16.f4± Bxe5 17.dxe5 g4 18.c4 Nc7 19.Qe3 0.69/18
[19.Rd1± 1.16/18]
19...Na6 1.30/18 Black is weak on the dark squares
[Black should play 19...b5± 0.69/18]
20.Rfd1 White is more active. **20...Qc5** 1.62/20
[20...b5± 1.25/19 21.cxb5 cxb5]

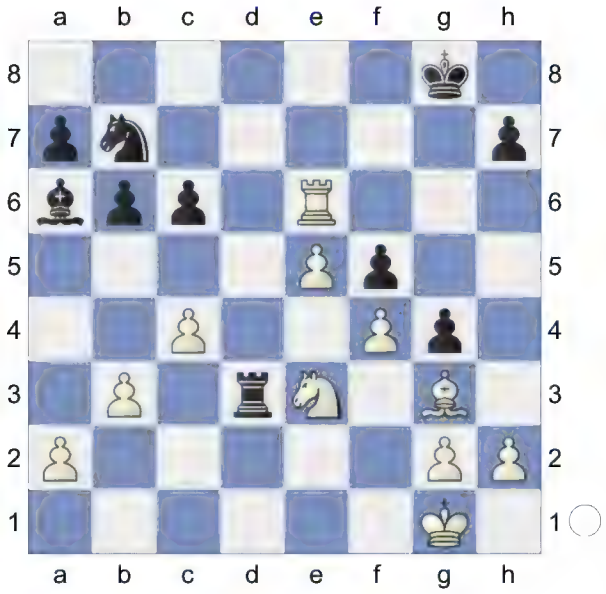


21.Qxc5 Nxc5 22.Nc3 b6 23.Rd6 Ba6 1.81/22
[23...Nb7± 1.36/22]

24.b3+-
[24.Rxc6?! Rac8 25.Rxc8 Rxc8±]
24...Rad8 2.50/22
[24...Bc8 1.82/21 might work better. 25.b4 *(25.Rxc6 Rd8+-)* 25...Nb7]
25.Rad1
[Don't do 25.Rxc6?! Rd3 26.Be1 Rfd8±]
25...Nb7

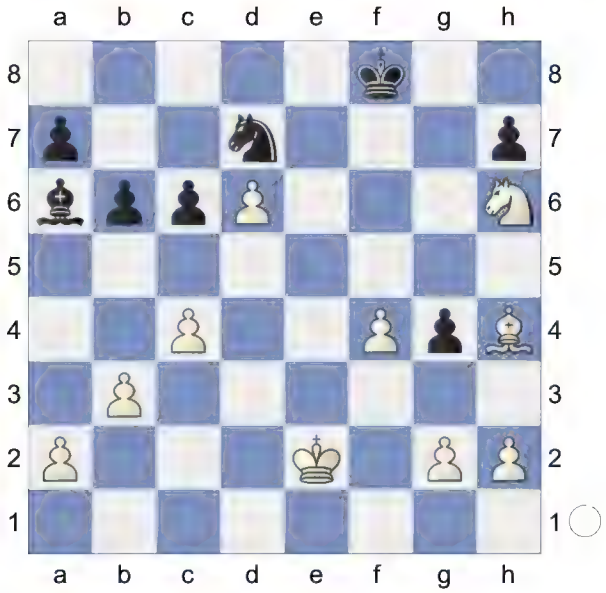


26.Rxe6 Rxd1+ 27.Nxd1 Rd8 28.Ne3 Rd3? 6.02/21
[28...Nc5 3.11/19]



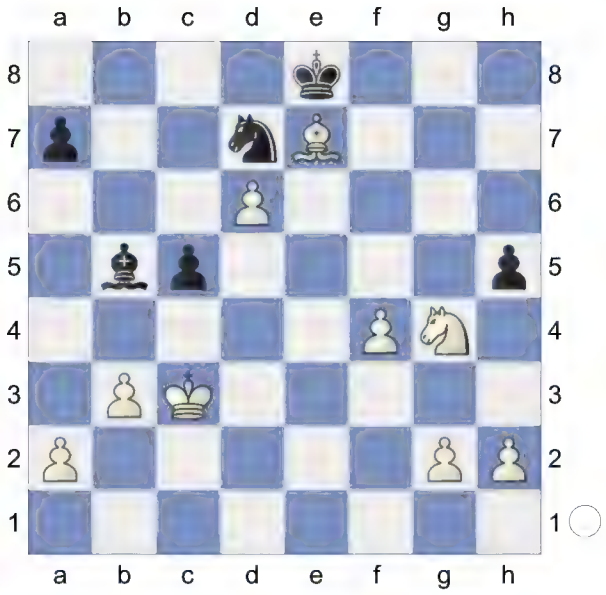
29.Nxf5 Rd1+ 30.Kf2 Nc5

31.Rd6 Ne4+ 32.Ke2 Rxd6 33.exd6
Endgame. KBN-KBN
[Don't play 33.Nxd6 Nxd6 34.exd6 Bc8+-]
33...Nf6 34.Nh6+ Kf8 35.Bh4 Nd7

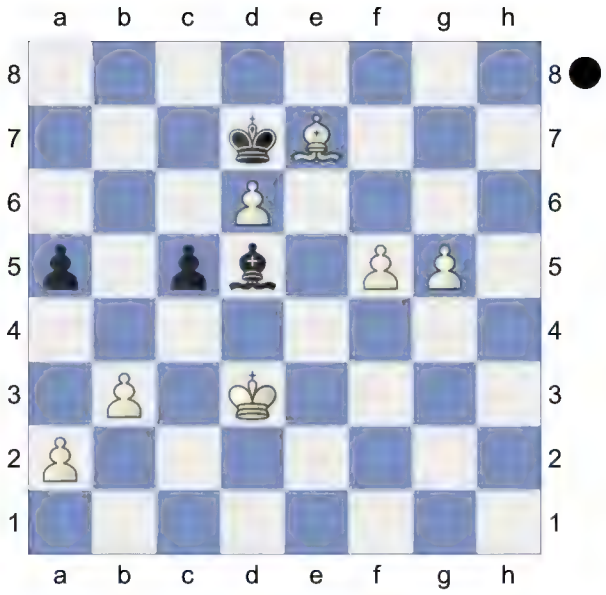


36.Be7+ Ke8 37.Nxg4 b5 38.cxb5 Bxb5+ 39.Kd2 c5 40.Kc3 h5

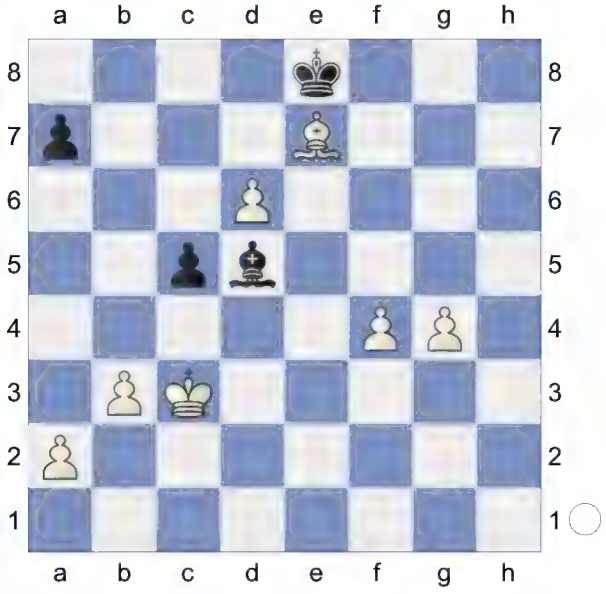
(Diagram)



41.Ne3 Nb6 42.h3 Bc6 43.g4 hxg4 44.hxg4 Nd5+ 45.Nxd5 Bxd5

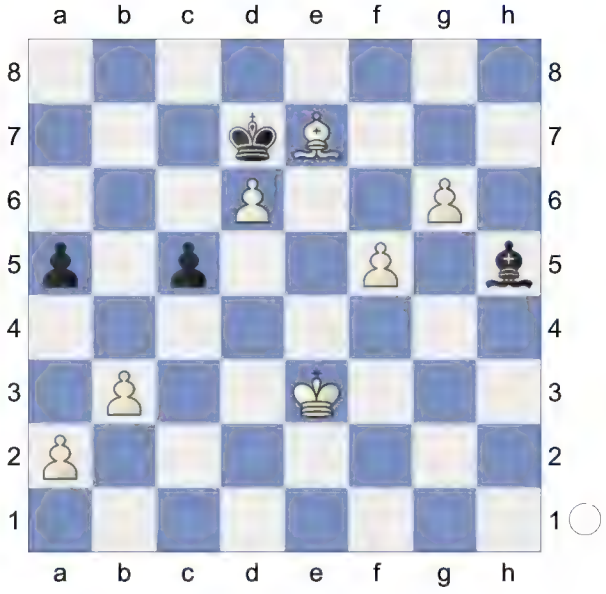


g5-g6 is the strong threat. **48...Bc6 49.g6 Bf3 50.Ke3 Bh5**



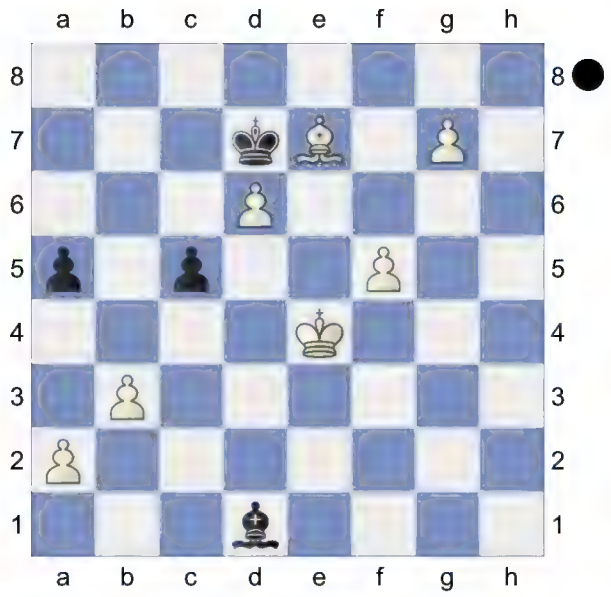
KB-KB **46.f5 Kd7 47.Kd3 a5 48.g5**

(Diagram)



51.Ke4 Bd1 52.g7

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/ Black=0.42
1-0

100 **C01**
□ **Marco,Georg**
■ **De Weydlich,Kasimir**
DSB-09.Kongress (11) 1894
[Kitty Kat]

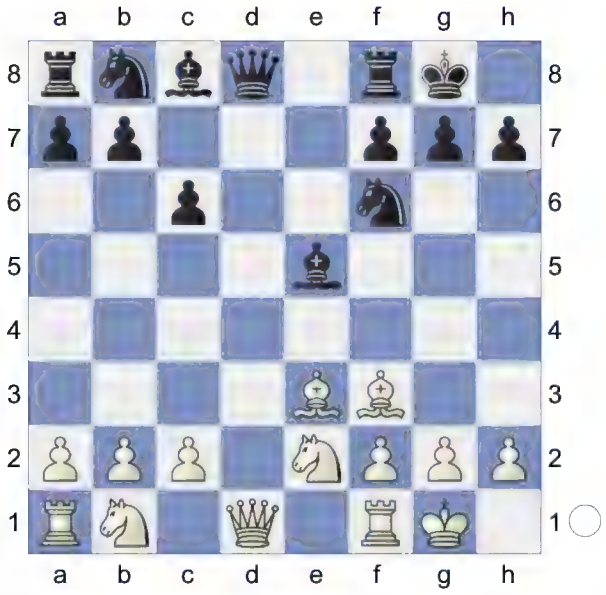
C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Bd6

(Diagram)

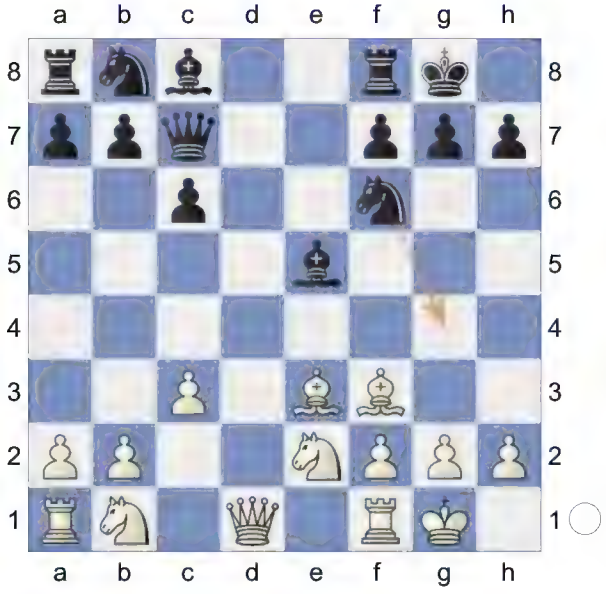
6.Ne2 c6
[6...Nbd7 7.Nbc3 c6 8.0-0 0-0 9.g3 e5 10.d5 cxd5 11.Nxd5 Nxd5 12.Bxd5 Nf6 13.Bg2 h6 14.Nc3 a6 15.Qe2 Qc7 16.Ne4 Nxe4 17.Bxe4 Bd7 18.Rd1 Bc6 19.c3 Bxe4 20.Qxe4 Rad8 21.Be3 1-0 (55) Pichot,A (2638)-Urbina Perez,J (2274) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st Feb Late blitz 2023 (2)]
7.Be3N
[7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Nd2 0-0 9.Nc4 Bc7 10.Bf4 Nb6 11.Ne5 Nfd5 12.Bg3 Qe7 13.c3 f5 14.Bxd5 Nxd5 15.Qc1 g5 16.f4 Bxe5 17.dxe5 g4 18.c4 Nc7 19.Qe3 Na6 20.Rfd1 Qc5 21.Qxc5 Nxc5 1-0 (52) Lasker,E-Blackburne,J London (8) 22.Nc3 b6 23.Rd6 Ba6 24.b3 Rad8 25.Rad1 Nb7 26.Rxe6 Rxd1+ 27.Nxd1 Rd8 28.Ne3 Rd3 29.Nxf5 Rd1+ 30.Kf2 Nc5 31.Rd6 Ne4+ 32.Ke2 Rxd6 33.exd6 Nf6 34.Nh6+ Kf8 35.Bh4 Nd7 36.Be7+ Ke8 1-0 (52) Lasker,E-Blackburne,J Match Lasker - Blackburne 1892 37.Nxg4 b5 38.cxb5 Bxb5+ 39.Kd2 c5 40.Kc3 h5 41.Ne3 Nb6 42.h3 Bc6 43.g4

hxg4 44.hxg4 Nd5+ 45.Nxd5 Bxd5 46.f5 Kd7 47.Kd3 a5 48.g5 Bc6 49.g6 Bf3 50.Ke3 Bh5 51.Ke4 Bd1 1-0 (52) Sierra Vallina,L-6.0-0 a5 7.Re1 0-0 8.Nbd2 - P FIDE WCh KO, (4.3) 1999]

7...0-0 8.0-0 e5 And now ...e5-e4 would win. **9.dxe5 Bxe5**

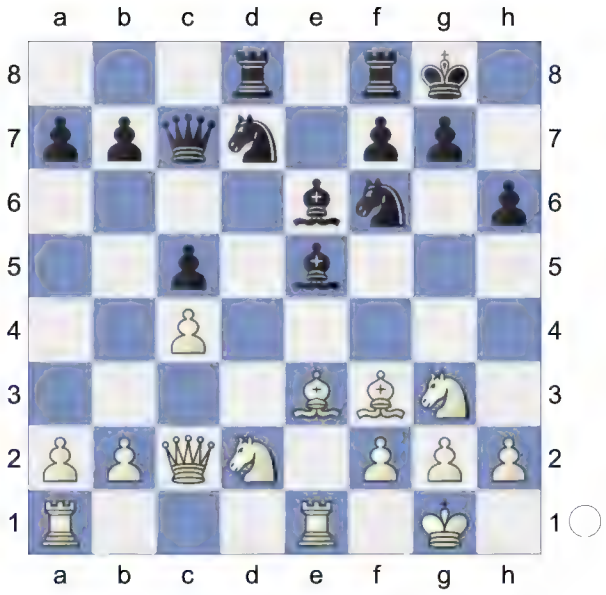


...Qd8xd1 would now be deadly. **10.c3 Qc7**



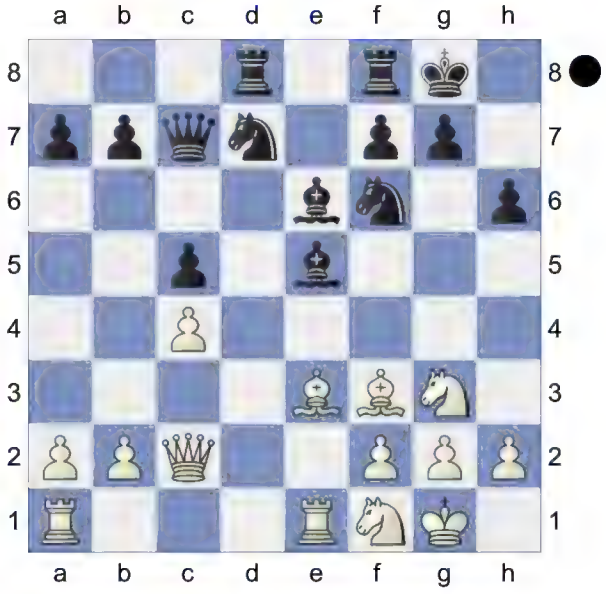
11.Ng3 Be6 12.Nd2 Nbd7 13.Qc2 Rad8 14.c4 c5 15.Rfe1 h6

(Diagram)



16.Ndf1 -0.88/18

[16.h3∓ -0.36/18]

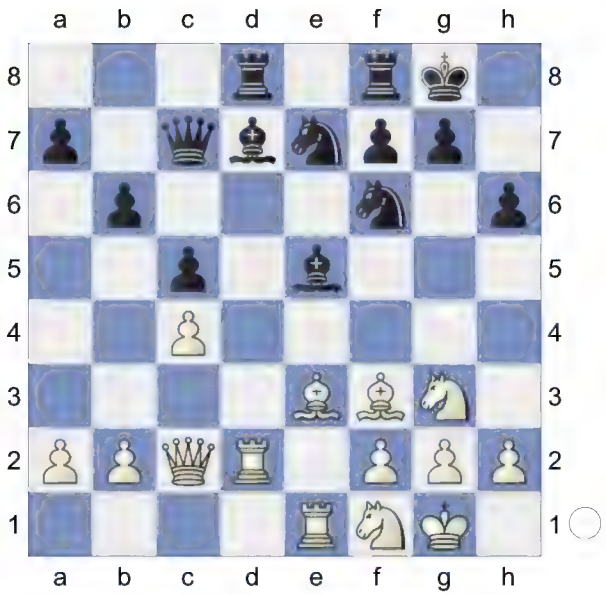


16...Nb6 -0.18/21

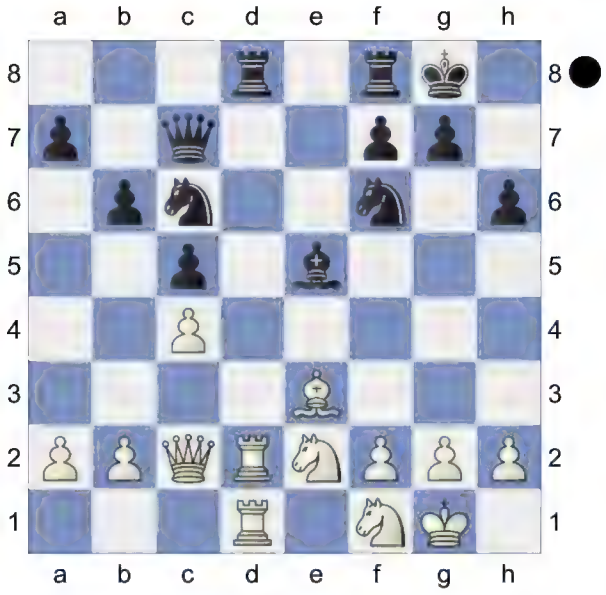
[16...Rfe8!∓ -0.88/18]

17.Be2= Bd7 18.Rad1 Nc8 19.Rd2 b6 20.Bf3 Ne7

(Diagram)



21.Red1 Bc6 22.Bxc6 Nxc6 23.Ne2



Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
½-½

101 **C01**
□ **Lasker,Emanuel**
■ **Finlay,D.J. (1 of 15)**
Simul USA Brooklyn, NY, Brooklyn Ch
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'We're gonna fast forward a few year and bunch of wins to 2024. A rematch with Bluebaum, so let's see how it went.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**

6.Ne2 cxd4
[6...Be7 7.Nbc3 0-0 8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 Be3 18.Rd1 Re8 19.Rd7 h5 20.h3 h4 21.Kd1 1-0 (49) Onischuk,V (2609)-Bluebaum, M (2646) Titled Tue 8th Oct Late 2024 (4)]
7.Qxd4 Be7 8.Be3
[8.Qxd8+ simplifies Bxd8 9.Bf4 0-0 10.Nbc3]
8...0-0 The position is equal. **9.Nbc3N**

[9.Nd2 Qxd4 10.Nxd4 Nbd7 11.Nb5 a6 12.Nc3 Ne5 13.Be2 Bd7 14.Nf3 Nc6 15.0-0-0 b5 16.Ng5 Rac8 17.Nge4 Nxe4 18.Nxe4 Be8 19.a3 Ne5 20.Nd6 Bxd6 21.Rxd6 Bc6 22.f3 Rfd8 23.Rxd8+ Rxd8 1-0 (59) Patino,D (1888)-Celis Vargas, W (1749) Bogota Navidad op 2024 (7)]

9...Qxd4 0.20/21

[9...Nc6∓ -0.37/18 10.Qxd8 Rxd8]

10.Nxd4= a6

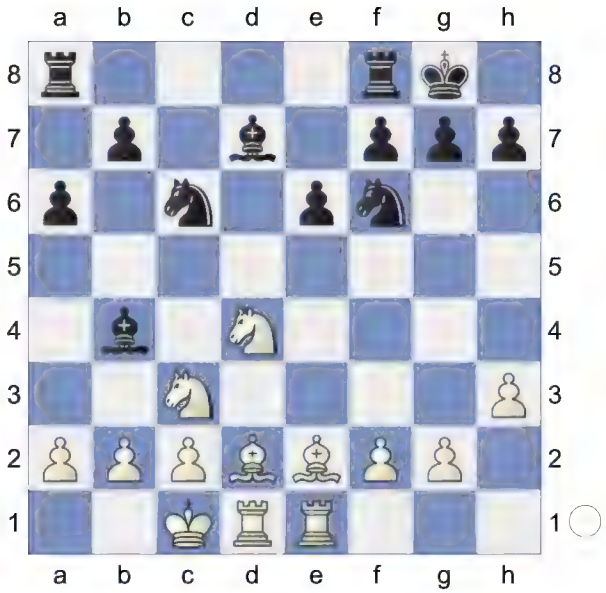
11.0-0-0 Nbd7 12.h3 Ne5 13.Be2 Bd7 14.Rhe1 -0.08/19

[14.g4± 0.39/19]

14...Bb4 15.Bd2 Nc6 0.42/20

[15...Rfc8= 0.00/18]

(Diagram)



16.Nb3± Bxc3 17.Bxc3 Nd5 18.Bd2 Rad8 1.23/20

[18...Rfc8± 0.52/18]

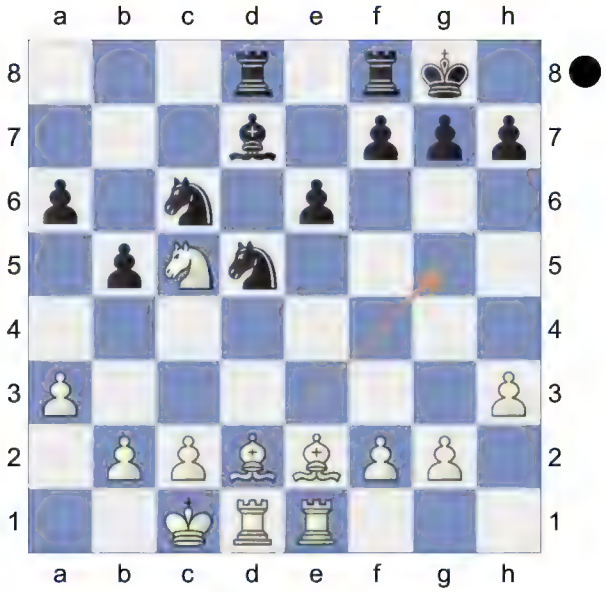
19.a3 0.70/18

[White should try 19.Nc5± 1.23/20 Bc8 20.Bf3]

19...b5 1.11/17

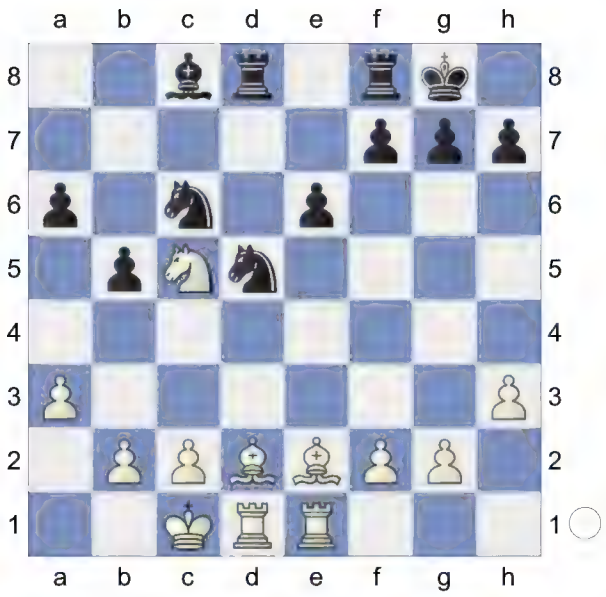
[19...Rc8± 0.70/18]

20.Nc5

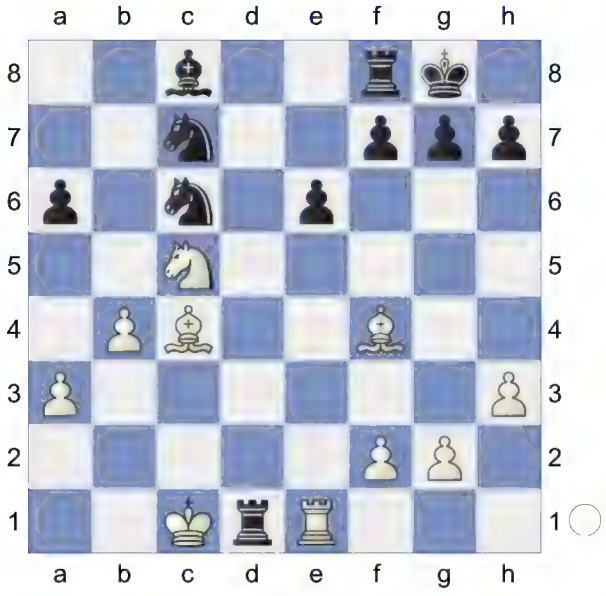


Strongly threatening Bd2-g5! **20...Bc8**

(Diagram)

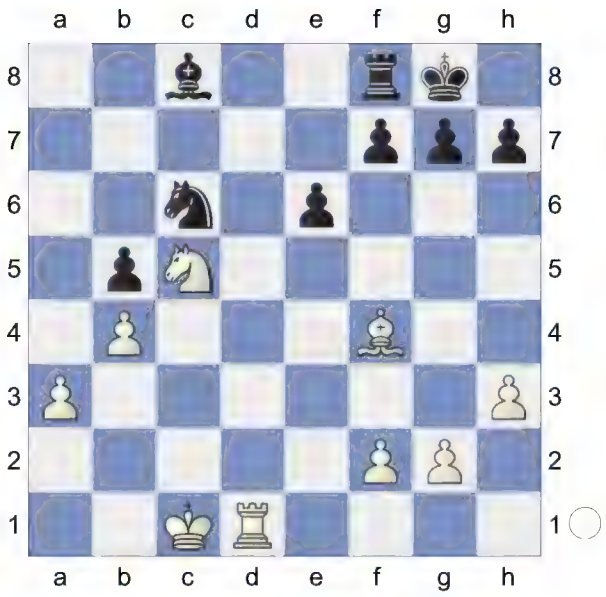


21.c3 0.67/19
[21.c4± 1.30/20 bxc4 22.Bxc4]
21...Na5 1.35/20
[21...e5± 0.67/19]
22.b4 Nc6 23.c4 bxc4 24.Bxc4 Nc7
25.Bf4 This pair of bishops is nice.
25...Rxd1+

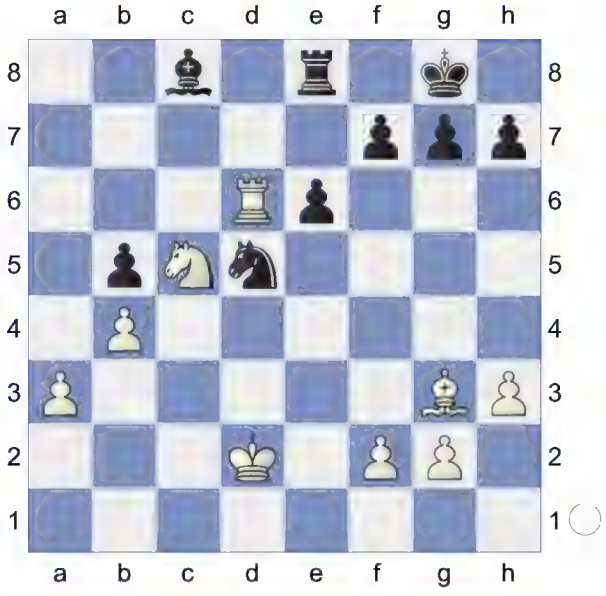


26.Rxd1
[26.Kxd1?! Nd5 27.Bh2 Nc3+ 28.Kd2 Nb5+-]
26...Nb5 27.Bxb5 axb5

(Diagram)

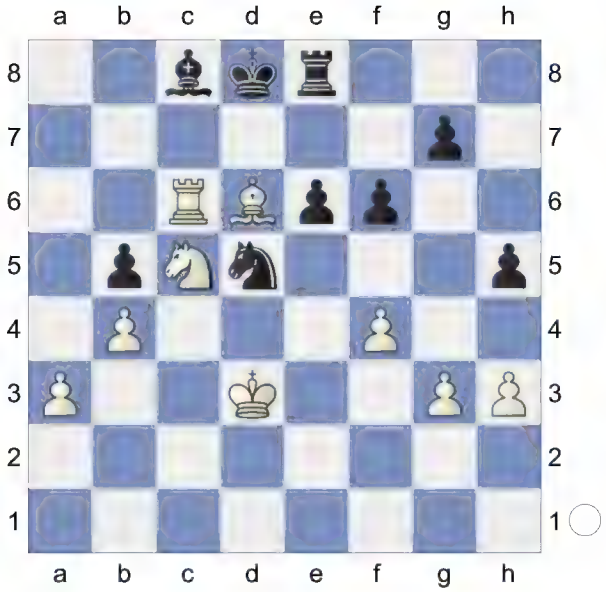


28.Rd6! Ne7 29.Kd2 0.80/21
[29.Kb2+- 1.83/23]
29...Nd5± 30.Bg3 Re8



31.Kd3 Kf8 32.Rc6 Ke7 0.80/20
[32...f6= 0.18/20]
33.Bd6+ 0.37/21
[33.Kc2± 0.80/20]
33...Kd8 1.69/22
[Better is 33...Kf6± 0.37/21]
34.f4 1.32/22
[White should play 34.Kc2+- 1.69/22]
34...h5 35.g3 1.15/22
[35.Kd4+- 1.62/23]

35...f6



36.Kd4 g6 37.g4 White is much more active. **37...hxg4 38.hxg4** aiming for f4-f5! **38...f5?** 4.07/27

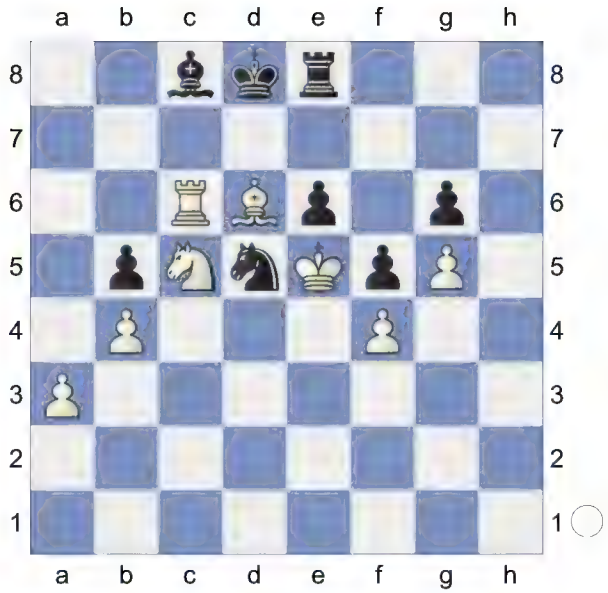
[38...Nxf4± 0.95/22 is more resistant. 39.Bc7+ *(39.Bxf4 e5+ 40.Bxe5 fxe5+ 41.Ke4 Bxg4=)* 39...Ke7 40.Bxf4 *(40.Bd6+ Kf7±)* 40...e5+ 41.Bxe5 fxe5+ 42.Ke4 *(42.Kxe5 Bxg4 43.Kf4 Bf5=)* 42...g5]

39.g5+- Hoping for Kd4-e5. **39...Rh8** 7.45/24

[⌓39...Rg8 4.37/24 40.a4 *(40.Ke5 Re8+-)* 40...bxa4]

40.Ke5 Re8

(Diagram)



41.Bb8? 1.26/23

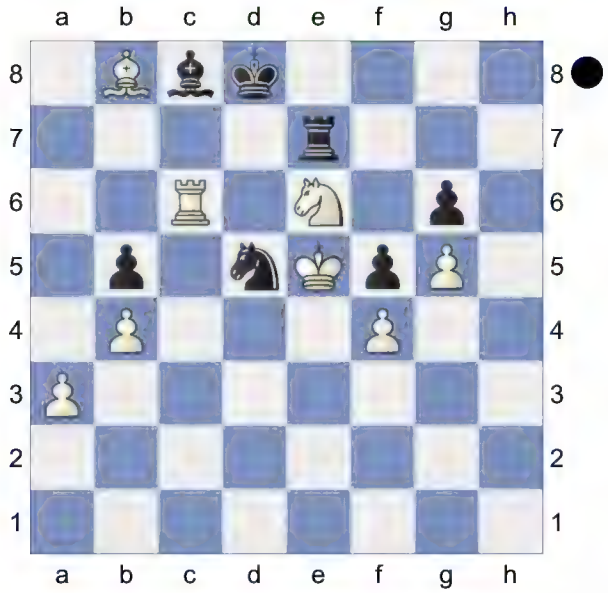
[41.a4+- 4.03/24 is more deadly. Nxb4 42.axb5 *(42.Rb6 Nd5+-)* 42...Nxc6+ 43.bxc6]

41...Re7? 4.24/27

[41...Ke7± 1.26/23 42.Ba7 *(42.Nxe6 Bb7-+)* 42...Kf7]

42.Nxe6+

[Don't take 42.Bd6 Re8 43.a4 Nxb4+-]



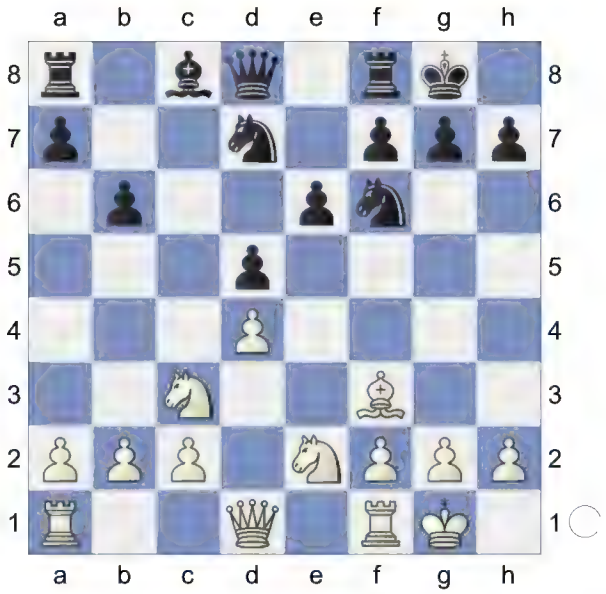
Weighted Error Value: White=0.45/

Black=0.50
1-0

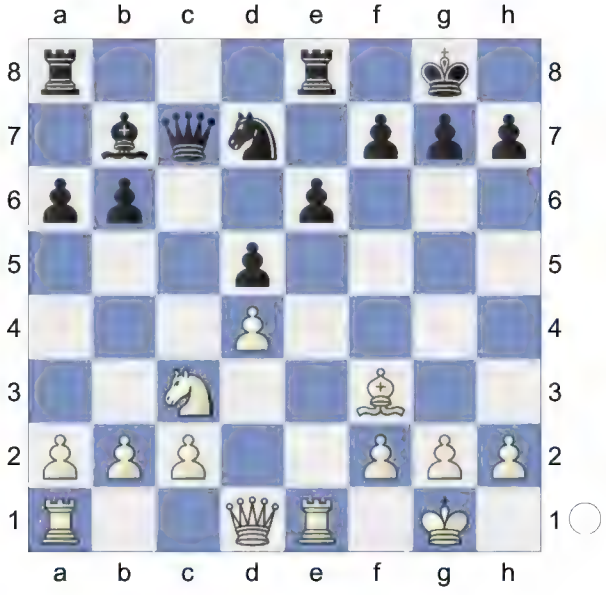
102 **C01**
□ **Schlechter,Carl**
■ **Maroczy,Geza**
Budapest HUN (1) 01.01.1896
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 Bd6

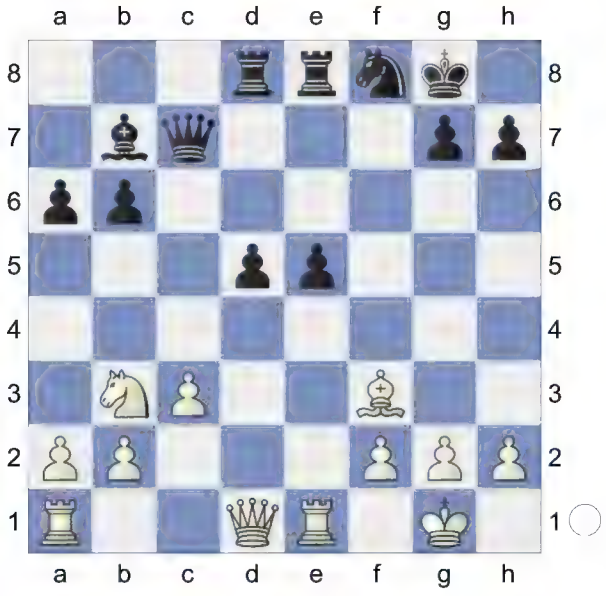
6.Ne2 Nbd7 7.Bf4
[7.0-0 0-0 8.Nbc3 e5 9.Ng3 *(9.Bg5 h6 10.Bh4 Re8 11.Ne4 g5 12.Nxd6 cxd6 13.Bg3 e4* 6) Odds and Ends-The Schlechter Variation The Aggressive French 2024*)* 9...exd4 10.Qxd4 Ne5 11.Be2 Bg4 12.h3 Nc6 13.Qd1 Bxe2 14.Ncxe2 Re8 15.c3 Ne4 16.Qa4 Nc5 17.Qc2 Bxg3 18.Nxg3 Qd3 19.Qxd3 Nxd3 20.b3 g6 21.Bh6 f6 1-0 (33) Sedykh, M (2468)-Stoyko,S (2354) Sautron op qual 19th 2019 (9)]
7...0-0 8.Bxd6 The position is equal.
8...cxd6 9.0-0 d5N
[9...Qb6 10.Nbc3 e5 11.Qd3 Re8 12.Rad1 Nf8 13.Ng3 Ne6 14.dxe5 dxe5 15.Qb5 Nd4 16.Qxb6 Nxf3+ 17.gxf3 axb6 18.Rd6 Bd7 19.Rxb6 Bc6 20.Kg2 Red8 21.Re1 Rd2 22.Rxe5 Nd7 23.Rxc6 Nxe5 24.Rc7 0-1 (54) Flis,P (1936)-Machlowski,S (2005) POL-chT 2nd League 2022 (6.87)]
10.Nbc3 b6



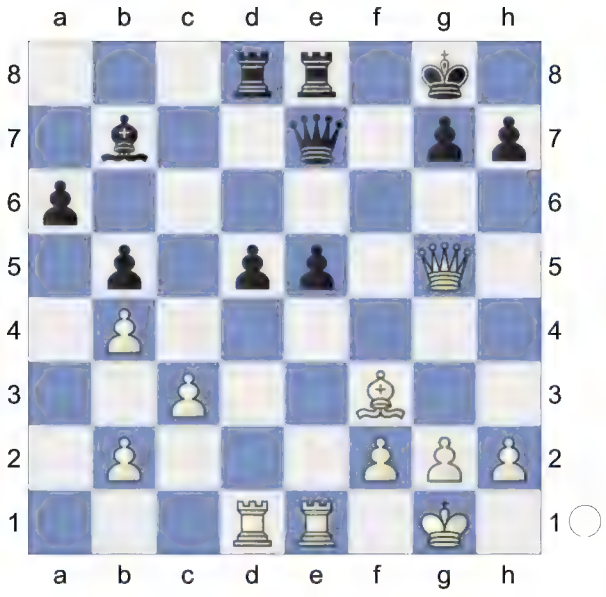
11.Re1 Bb7 12.Nf4 Re8 13.Nd3 a6 14.Ne5 Qc7 15.Nxd7 Nxd7



16.Ne2 Rad8 17.c3 Nf8 18.Nc1 f6 19.Nb3 e5 20.dxe5 fxe5

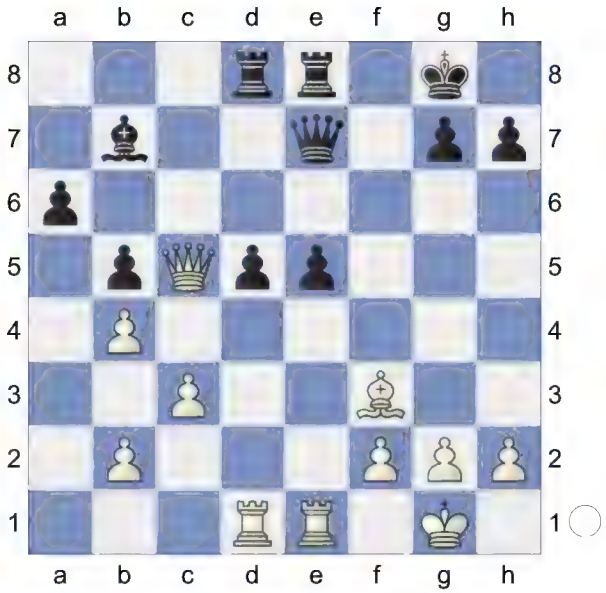


21.Qd2 Ne6 22.Rad1 Nc5 0.02/17
[22...Nf4∓ -0.42/20]
23.Qg5 Nxb3 24.axb3 b5 25.b4 Qe7



26.Qe3 Qf7 27.Qc5 Qe7 1.36/22
[27...e4= 0.24/20 28.Bg4 Qg6]

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.09 (flawless)
½-½

103 **C01**
□ **Anderssen,Adolf**
■ **Wilhelm Steinitz**
Anderssen - Steinitz (13) 08.08.1866
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation
We're in another classical game in 2015. It's a format of 90 minutes and then you get 30 minutes with 30 second bonus from move 40. Onischuk's accuracy here was 96.5% which is incredible. We're gonna skip a few boring wins against extremely weak players again. This game is another fun one though. Now, yes, George is a FM, but this one is a strong one. 2400 is a very good rating for an FM player, this guy is also young, at this point (2021) he's 19 so he is a young but solid player. **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**
(Diagram)

6.Ne2 Nc6 [pgndiagram] These Anti-Berlin lines with kingside fianchetto were championed successfully by Steinitz **7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5** The position is equal. **9.Be2N**

[9.Nc3 Bb4 *(9...a6)* 10.Ndb5 Bd7 *(10...Qe7 11.a3 Bxc3+ 12.Nxc3 0-0 13.0-0 Rd8 14.Qe2 Nxf3+ 15.Qxf3; 10...Nxf3+ 11.Qxf3 Bxc3+ 12.Nxc3 0-0 13.0-0 Qa5 14.Rfd1 a6 15.h3 Re8 16.Rd6 Qf5 17.Qxf5 exf5 18.Rb6 Nd7 19.Rb4 Nf8 20.Nd5 Ne6 21.Nb6 Rb8 22.Rd1 g5 23.Rd5 f4 24.Bc5 Nxc5 25.Rxg5+* 1-0 (40) Onischuk,V (2669)-Mammadov,Z (2487) Nakhchivan Open 2015 (8.10)) 11.a3 Bxc3+ 12.Nxc3 Nxf3+ *(12...Bc6 13.Qxd8+ Rxd8 14.Bxc6+ Nxc6 15.h3 b6 16.Rd1 Ke7 17.Ke2 Rxd1 18.Rxd1 Rd8 19.Rxd8 Kxd8 20.b4* 6. 3...dxe4 Part II-Bb4) 13.Qxf3

A) 13...Bc6 14.Qg3 0-0 15.Bh6 *(15.Rd1 Qa5 16.0-0 Rfd8 17.Bd4 Qf5 18.Rd3 Rd7 19.Rfd1 Rad8 20.Bxf6 Qxf6 21.Rxd7 Bxd7 22.Qc7 Qe7 23.Qxb7 a5 24.h3 Qe8 25.Qc7 a4 26.Nxa4* 1-0 Onischuk,V (2620)-Stoleriu,G (2419) Titled 21st Dec 2021 (3)) 15...Nh5 16.Qg4 Qf6;

B) 13...Bc6= 0.09/22 deserves consideration. 14.Qg3 0-0;

C) 13...Qc7 0.45/21 14.Bf4 Qc6 *(14...Qb6)* 15.Qd3]

[9.0-0 Nxf3+ *(9...Be7)*]

9...Nd5 10.Bc1

[10.Bd2 Bc5 *(10...Be7)* 11.Nb3 Bb6 *(11...Be7)* 12.c4 Nf6 13.0-0]

[10.Qd2 -0.60/19 10.Be3-d2 -0.10 Nxe3 11.Qxe3 Bc5 12.c3 Ng6]

10...Bc5

[10...Be7 11.0-0 0-0 12.c4 Nf6 *(12...Nb6 13.b3 Bf6)* 13.Nc3 Is better, although from the practical point of view, Black's position is much easier to play Bd7 14.Bf4 Ng6 15.Be3 a6 *(15...e5)* 16.c5 e5 *(16...Qc7 17.b4 b6 18.Rc1 bxc5 19.bxc5 Rfd8)* 17.Nb3 Qc7 18.Qc2 Against Bd7-f5 Bc6 *(18...Be6)* 19.Bc4 Rad8 20.Rad1 Nf4 21.f3 N6d5]

11.0-0 0-0 12.Nb3! [pgndiagram] A very modern interpretation of the opening for

those years. White recognizes that he has to play on the queenside and decides to undouble the adversary pawns in order to open a file for his rook

12...Bb6

[12...Be7 13.c4 Nb6 14.Qc2 And now Black's pieces are not coordinated Bd7!? Preventing Qb7, came into consideration]

13.c4 Nb4 14.c5?! Only this is slightly misguided. White removes his rook from the open file **14...Bc7 15.Nc3**

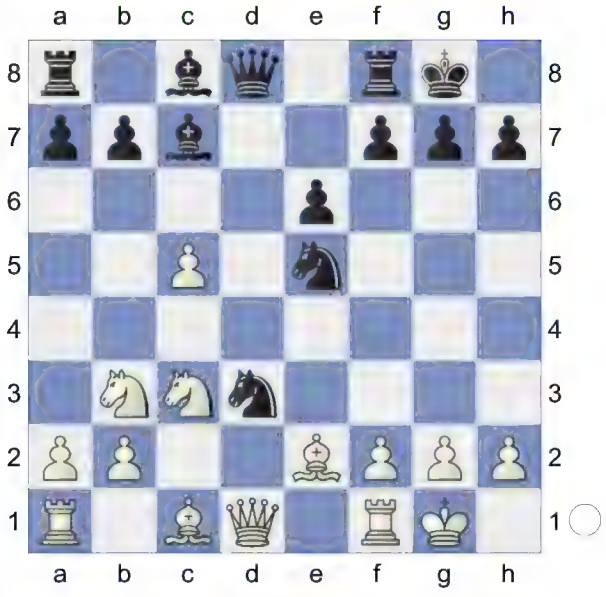
[15.Qxd8 simplifies Bxd8 16.Nc3 Nec6 17.Bd2]

15...Nbd3 0.39/18

[15...Nec6]

[15...Qe7 16.Nb5 [pgndiagram] And White retains chances of successful defence Rd8 Going for the queen exchange, was better. Black can't really avoid it 17.Bd2 Bb8]

[15...Qe7= -0.10/21 should be considered.]



16.Nb5 Nxc1?! 17.Qxc1 Bb8

[17...Bd7 White had to seek tactical countermeasures. The point of this knight jump is to open the diagonal for the slumbering bishop on d2 18.Rd1 Qb8 19.Nxc7 Qxc7 20.Qc3]

18.Rd1

[18.Qe3]

18...Qe7 19.Nd6? [pgndiagram] From this moment onwards, White's game starts going downhill rapidly. His pieces are stuck on the queenside and are unable to join the kingside and defend the king

[19.Qe3 Nc6 And Black has the initiative, but White can try to put up some resistance 20.Bf3]

19...Rd8 20.Qe3 Nc6

21.Nf5↑ White fights for an advantage. A dynamic duo of knights.

[21.Nb5]

21...Qc7 0.81/21 [pgndiagram] Black finally decides on this move. He will soon set his pawn chain in motion, and alraedy it is very hard to suggest how White should counter that plan

[21...Qf8]

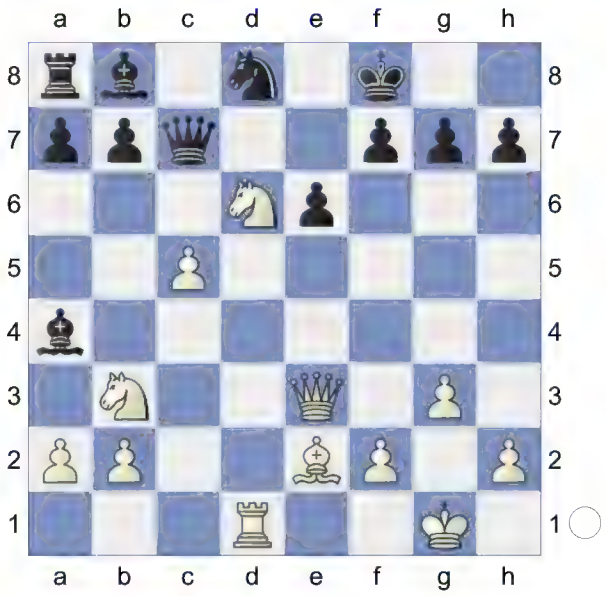
[21...exf5? loses. 22.Qxe7 Rf8 *(22...Rxd1+? 23.Rxd1 g6 24.Qe8+ Kg7 25.Bf3+-)* 23.Qe3+-]

[21...Qf8!= 0.30/22 22.Nfd4 Bc7]

22.Rxd8+± Nxd8 1.41/21

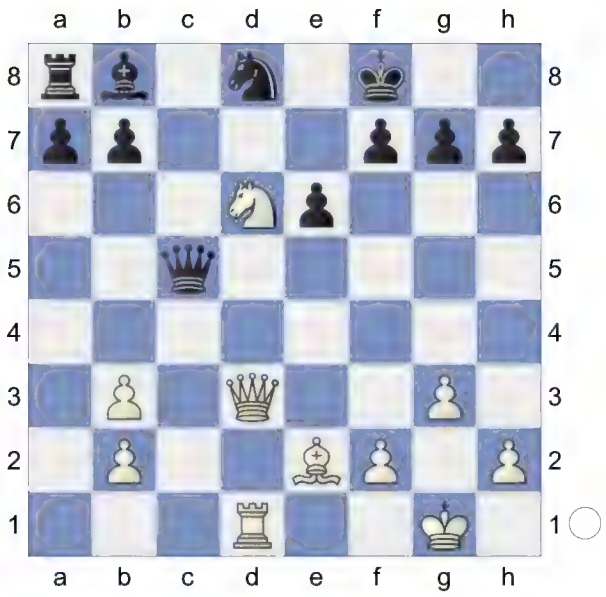
[22...Qxd8 23.Rd1 [pgndiagram] A fantastic win, demonstrating Steinitz's superiority over his contemporaries in the strategical positions Qf6 Is also hopeless 24.Nd6 Qxb2 25.Bd3 0.79/20 *(25.Nxc8 Was the last chance Bf4 Keeping a4 defended; ⌓25.Bf3! 1.20/22 Bxd6 26.cxd6)*]
[⌓22...Qxd8 0.81/23 23.Rd1 Qf6]

23.g3! Kf8 2.05/22 Defending g5 and intending h5
[23...Bd7 1.85/23 23...e6-e5 1.48 24.Rd1
A) 24...Bc6? #10/20 24...Nd8-c6 1.82 25.Qg5;
B) 24...h6 25.Nxh6+ gxh6 3.76/21 *(25...Kf8 2.49/24 was worth a try. 26.Ng4 Bc8)* 26.Qxh6;
C) 24...Nc6± 1.41/23;
D) 24...a6 2.72/24 25.Qg5 exf5 26.Qe7 Against Nd8-e6 Nc6 27.Qxd7 Qxd7 28.Rxd7]
[23...a6± 1.60/21 might work better. 24.Rd1 Nc6]
24.Nd6?+- Going from frying pan to fire
24...Bd7 3.08/23 But anyway, White's position is unpleasant
[24...a5 1.94/20 keeps fighting. 25.Rd1 a4]
25.Rd1 aiming for Qe3-d3. **25...Ba4!?** 6.80/24
[⌓25...a5 2.12/22 26.Nc4 Ba7]

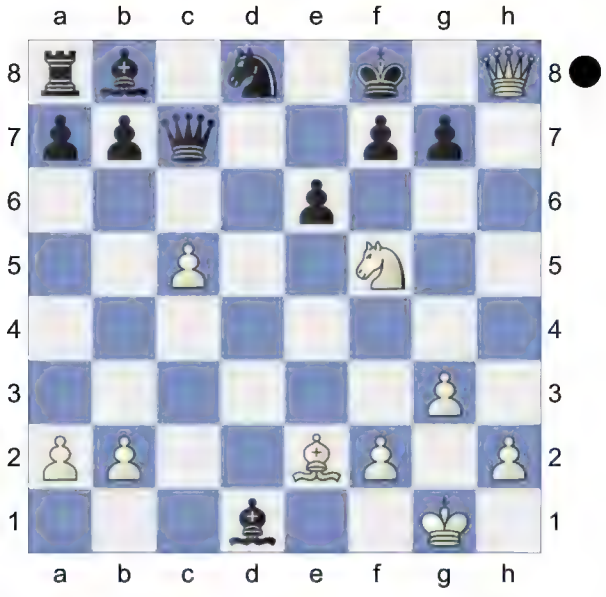


h5-g4 is coming soon **26.Qd3?!** White can't escape with the king
[26.Qe4 Threatens to win with Qe4xh7! Bxb3 27.axb3 Qxc5 28.Nxb7]
26...Ke7? 11.53/22
[26...Bxb3? 5.74/22 26...f7-f5 3.37 [pgndiagram] All Black's pieces join the attack and White doesn't have enough space to bring in his reserves. 27.axb3 Qxc5 6.04/23 *(⌓27...Ke7 4.19/24 28.b4 g6)*

(Diagram)



28.Ne4! This merely hastens the end, but White was doomed anyway. The rest doesn't require any commentary]
[26...f5 3.80/23 27.Nxf5 Discovered Attack exf5 28.Qxd8+ Qxd8 29.Rxd8+ Ke7]
27.Qxh7 Bxb3 [pgndiagram] Now Black's attack is simply irresistible
28.Qh4+ Kf8 29.Nf5 Bxd1 30.Qh8#



Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.61. Loss on time!?
0-1

104 **C01**
□ **Suechting,Hugo**
■ **Burn,Amos**
Ostend Ostende (14) 20.06.1906
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c5**

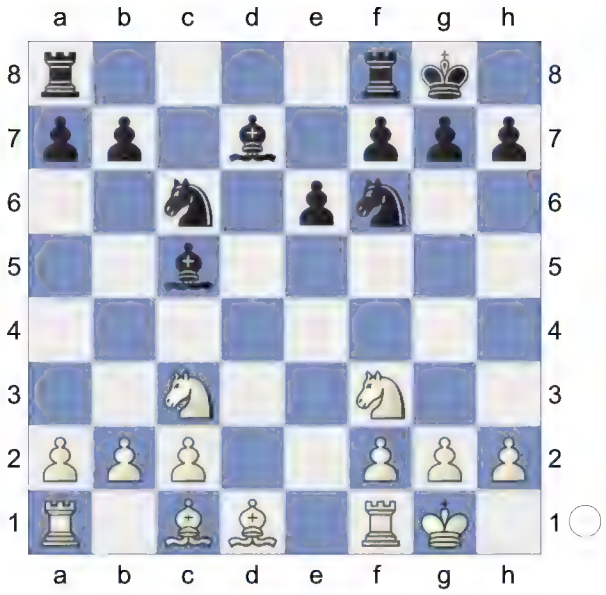
6.dxc5N
[6.Ne2
A) 6...Be7 7.Nbc3 *(7.Be3 0-0 8.dxc5 Qc7 9.0-0 Rd8 10.Qc1 Bxc5 11.Nbc3 Na6 12.a3 Bd7 13.Ng3 Bd6 14.Rd1 Be5 15.Bd4 Nc5 16.Qe3 Bxd4 17.Rxd4 Rac8 18.Rad1 b6 19.h3 Be8 20.Qd2 Rxd4 21.Qxd4 h6* ½-½ (83) Nguyen,M (2052)-Esipenko,A (2695) Titled Tuesday intern op

04th Feb Early blitz 2025 (3)*; 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nbc3 Qa5 9.Qe1 Kh8 10.Be3 Nc6 11.g3 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Bxd4 Bd7 14.Nd5 Qxe1 15.Rfxe1 Nxd5 16.Bxd5 Bb4 17.Bxb7 Rab8 18.Bf3 Bxe1 19.Rxe1 Rfc8 20.Rc1 Bc6 21.Bxc6 Rxc6* ½-½ (51) Gusev,D (1863)-Vardanyan,A (1735) Wch U10 Montesilvano 2024 (10)*)* 7...0-0 8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 f5 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 Bc4 20.b3 Ba6 21.Kd1 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4);

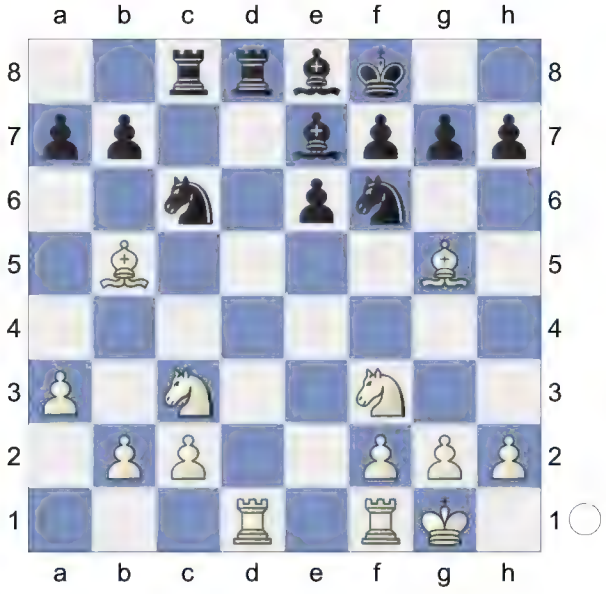
B) 6...Nc6 7.c3 *(7.Be3 cxd4 8.Nxd4 Ne5 9.Nc3 Bb4 10.Ndb5 0-0 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Nc7 Rb8 13.Bxa7 Nxf3+ 14.gxf3 Bd7 15.Bxb8 Rxb8 16.a4* 40) 1.e4 e6 French: 3...dxe4-French: 3...dxe4 with 6...Nc6*)* 7...cxd4 8.cxd4 Be7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Nbc3 Qd7 11.Qa4 Rd8 12.Bf4 Nb4 13.Qb3 Nbd5 14.Be5 b6 15.Nxd5 Nxd5 16.Nf4 Nxf4 17.Bxa8 Ba6 18.Bf3 Bxf1 19.Rxf1 Ng6 20.Rd1 Bd6 ½-½ (42) Mendes Marto,R (2583)-Giri,A (2504) USCCC-1 Final 7476 1974 (9)]

6...Qxd1+ 7.Bxd1 Bxc5 8.Nf3 Nc6 9.0-0 0-0 10.Nc3 Bd7

(Diagram)

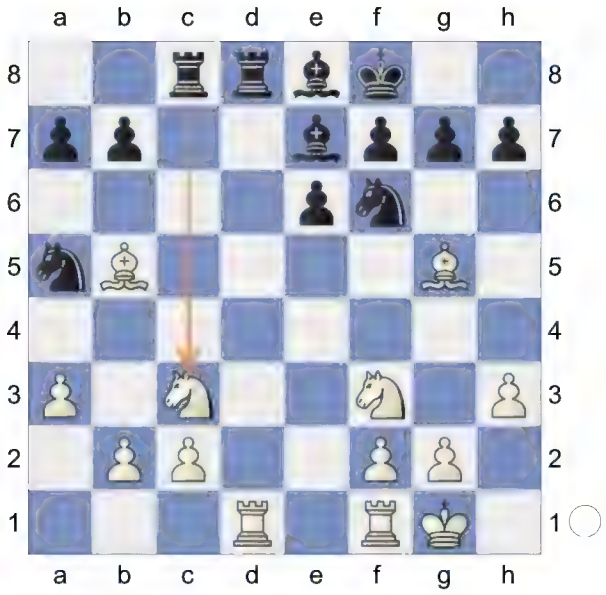


11.Bg5 Rac8 12.Be2 Rfd8 13.Rad1 Be8 14.Bb5 Be7 15.a3 Kf8



16.h3 Na5

(Diagram)



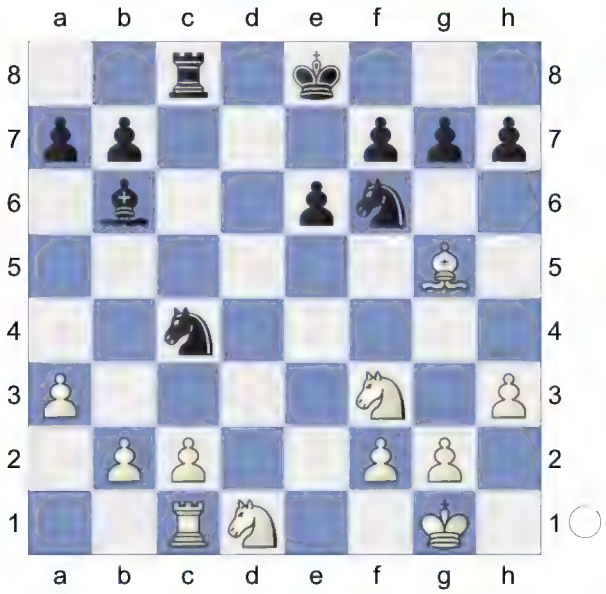
...Rc8xc3! is the strong threat. **17.Bxe8 Kxe8**

[17...Nxe8 18.Rxd8 Bxd8 *(18...Rxd8 19.Bd2∓)* 19.Bxd8 Rxd8 20.Rd1]

18.Rxd8+ Bxd8 19.Rc1 -0.74/18

[19.a4∓ -0.31/19 feels stronger.]

19...Nc4∓ 20.Nd1 Bb6

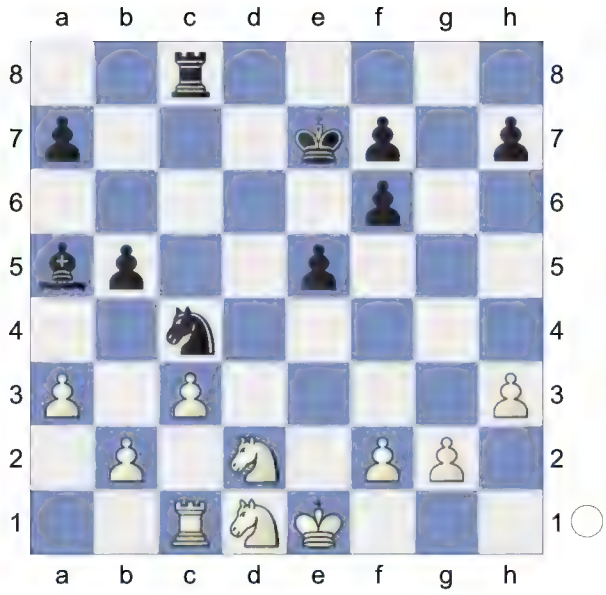


21.Bxf6 gxf6 22.Kf1 e5 23.Ke1 Ke7 24.Nd2 Ba5 -0.25/23

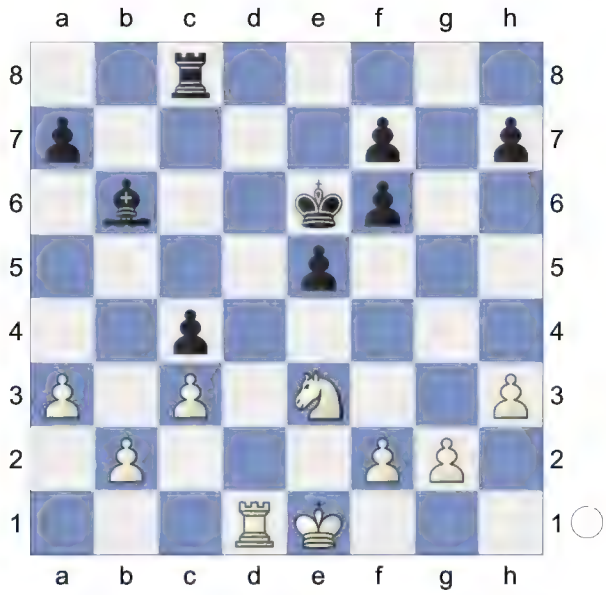
[24...Nxd2∓ -0.66/19 25.Kxd2 f5]

25.c3= b5

(Diagram)



26.Nxc4 bxc4 27.Ne3 Ke6 28.Rd1 Bb6



Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.11 (very precise)

½-½

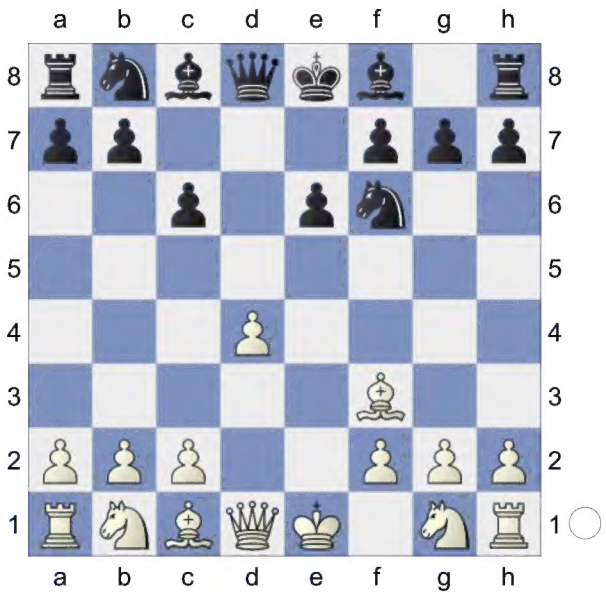
105 **C01**
□ **Lasker,Emanuel**
■ **Blackburne,Joseph**
m London ENG (8) 1892
[Kitty Kat]

C01: French: Exchange Variation https://lichess.org/@/LukicaBrk: 'Now, Onischuk doesn't just beat weaker opponents. He is able to beat stronger opponents as well in this opening, such as the German GM Matthias Bluebaum. He is 3rd best player of the country, so he is definitely a strong opponent.' **1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Bd3 dxe4 4.Bxe4 Nf6 5.Bf3 c6N**

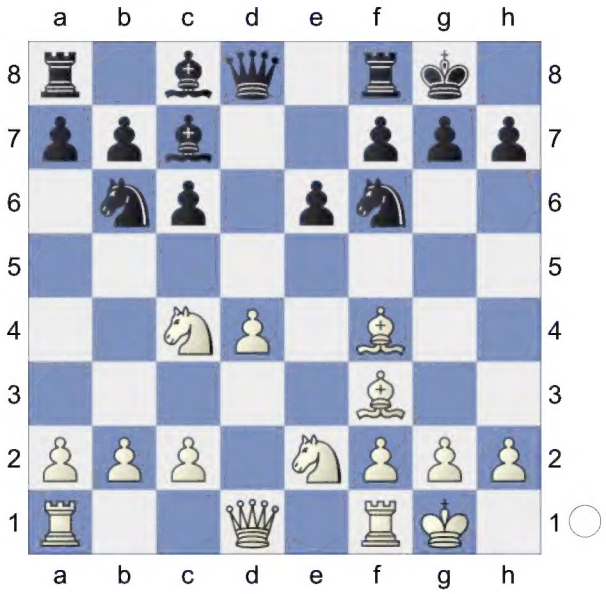
[5...c5 6.Ne2

A) 6...Be7 7.Nbc3 *(7.Be3 0-0 8.dxc5 Qc7 9.0-0 Rd8 10.Qc1 Bxc5 11.Nbc3 Na6 12.a3 Bd7 13.Ng3 Bd6 14.Rd1 Be5 15.Bd4 Nc5 16.Qe3 Bxd4 17.Rxd4 Rac8 18.Rad1 b6 19.h3 Be8 20.Qd2 Rxd4 21.Qxd4 h6* ½-½ (83) Nguyen,M (2052)-Esipenko,A (2695) Titled Tuesday intern op 04th Feb Early blitz 2025 (3)) 7...0-0 8.d5 exd5 9.Nxd5 Nxd5 10.Qxd5 Nc6 11.Qxd8 Rxd8 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Bd2 Ba6 14.Nc3 Rxd2 15.Kxd2 Bg5+ 16.f4 Bxf4+ 17.Ke1 f5 18.Rd1 Be3 19.Rd7 Bc4 20.b3 Ba6 21.Kd1 1-0 (69) Onischuk,V (2633)-Bluebaum,M (2672) Titled Tuesday 27th Oct blitz 2020 (4);

B) 6...Nc6 7.Be3 Nd5 8.Bxd5 Qxd5 9.Nbc3 Qxg2 10.Rg1 Qxh2 11.Bf4 Qh5 12.Nb5 40) 1.e4 e6 French: 3...dxe4-French: 3...dxe4 with 6...Nc6]



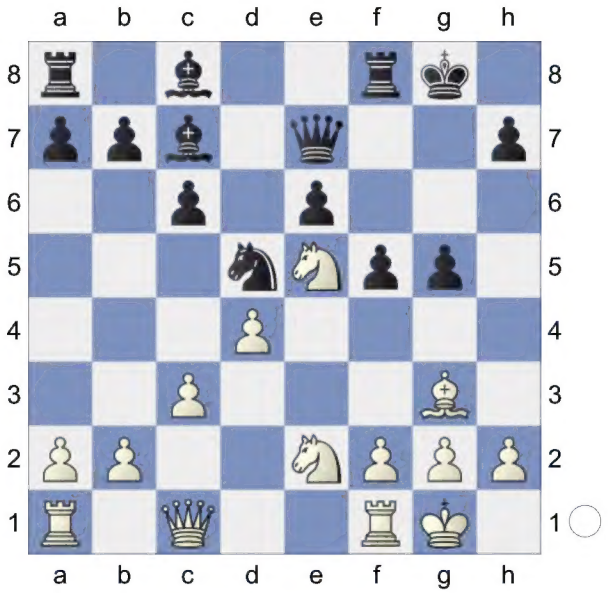
6.Ne2 Bd6 7.0-0 Nbd7 8.Nd2 The position is equal. **8...0-0 9.Nc4 Bc7 10.Bf4 Nb6**



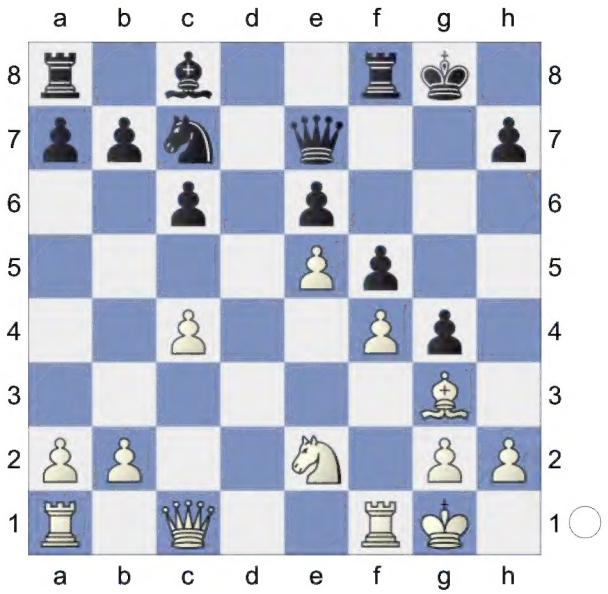
11.Ne5 Nfd5 12.Bg3 Qe7 13.c3 f5 14.Bxd5 Nxd5 15.Qc1 Dodges f5-f4 **15...g5** 0.66/20

[15...c5= 0.21/19 deserves consideration.]

(Diagram)

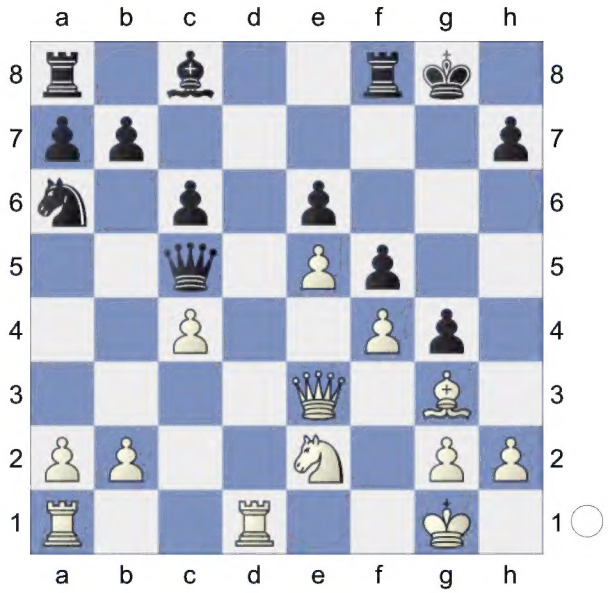


16.f4± Black is on the road to losing.
16...Bxe5 17.dxe5 g4 18.c4 Nc7

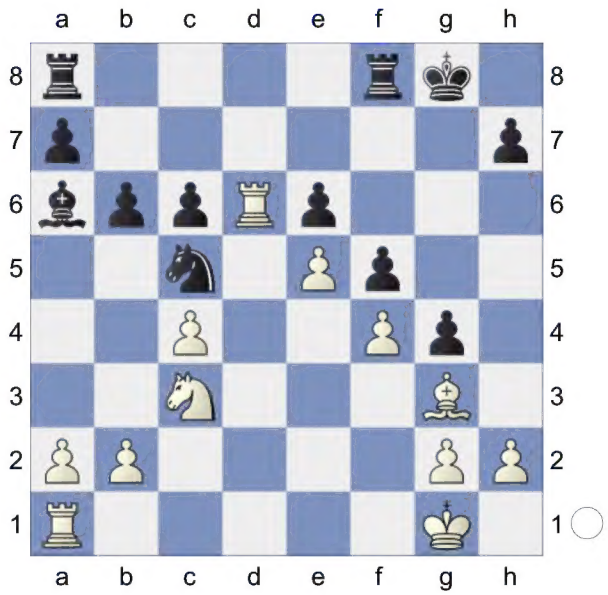


19.Qe3! Na6 1.40/18 Black is weak on the dark squares
[⌓19...b5 1.01/18]
20.Rfd1 White is more active. **20...Qc5** 1.52/20
[⌓20...b5 1.15/19 21.cxb5 cxb5]

(Diagram)

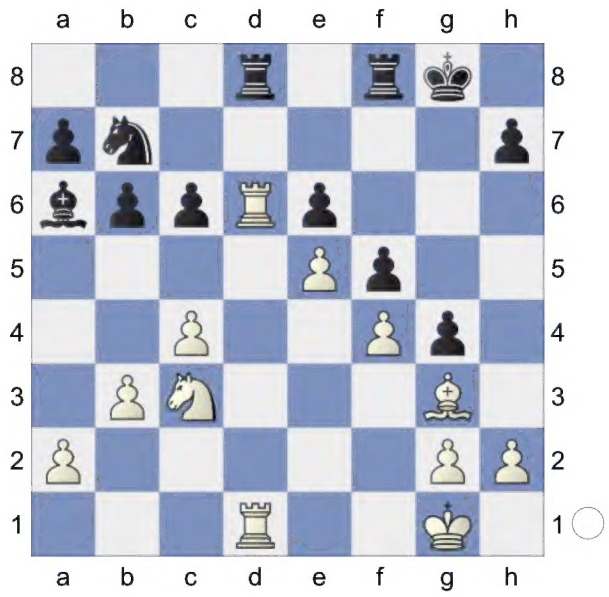


21.Qxc5± Nxc5 22.Nc3 b6 23.Rd6↑ White is on the roll. **23...Ba6** 1.88/21
[23...Nb7± 1.21/21]



24.b3!+-
[Much less strong is 24.Rxc6?! Rac8 25.Rxc8 Rxc8±]
24...Rad8 25.Rad1
[25.Rxc6 Rd2±]
25...Nb7

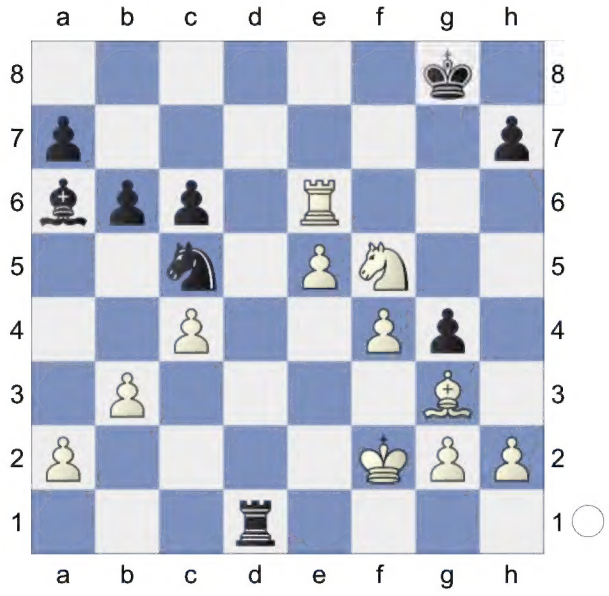
(Diagram)



26.Rxe6 Rxd1+ 27.Nxd1 Rd8 28.Ne3 Rd3 6.05/20

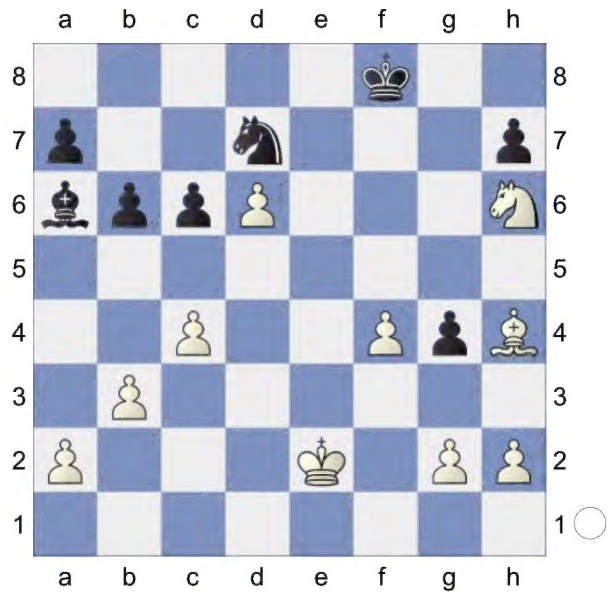
[⌓28...Nc5 3.99/20]

29.Nxf5 Rd1+ 30.Kf2 Nc5

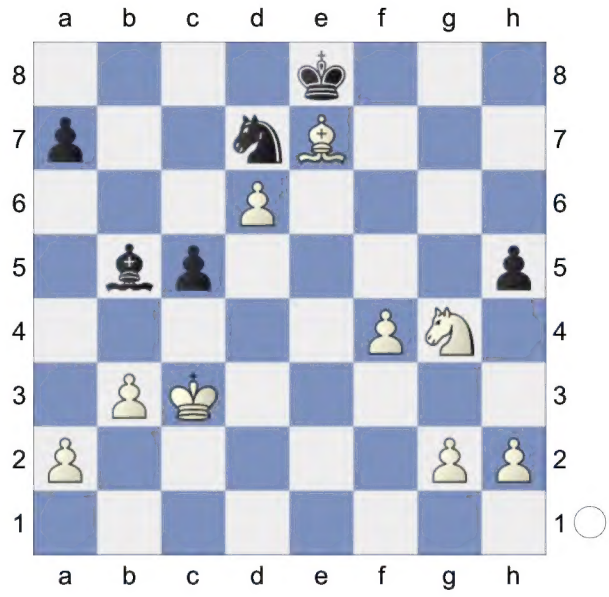


31.Rd6 Ne4+ 32.Ke2 Rxd6 33.exd6 Endgame. Black must now prevent d6-d7. KBN-KBN **33...Nf6 34.Nh6+ Kf8 35.Bh4 Nd7**

(Diagram)



36.Be7+ Ke8 37.Nxg4 b5 38.cxb5 Bxb5+ 39.Kd2 c5 40.Kc3 h5

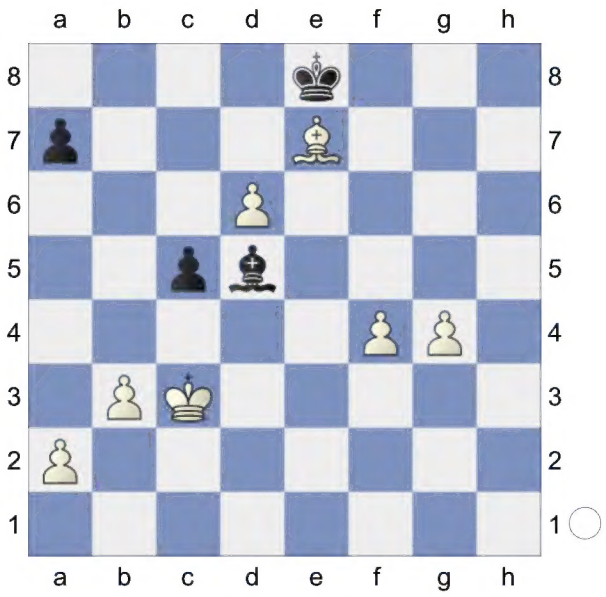


41.Ne3 Nb6 42.h3 Bc6 43.g4 hxg4 6.98/23

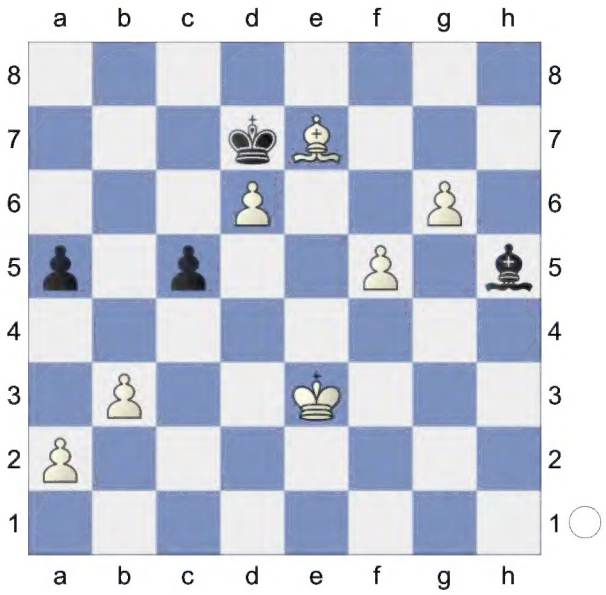
[⌓43...Nc8 4.31/19 44.Kc4 *(44.gxh5 Nxe7 45.dxe7 Be4+-)* 44...Nxe7 45.dxe7 Kxe7 46.Kxc5 *(46.gxh5 Kf8+-)* 46...Bf3]

44.hxg4 Nd5+ 45.Nxd5 Bxd5

(Diagram)

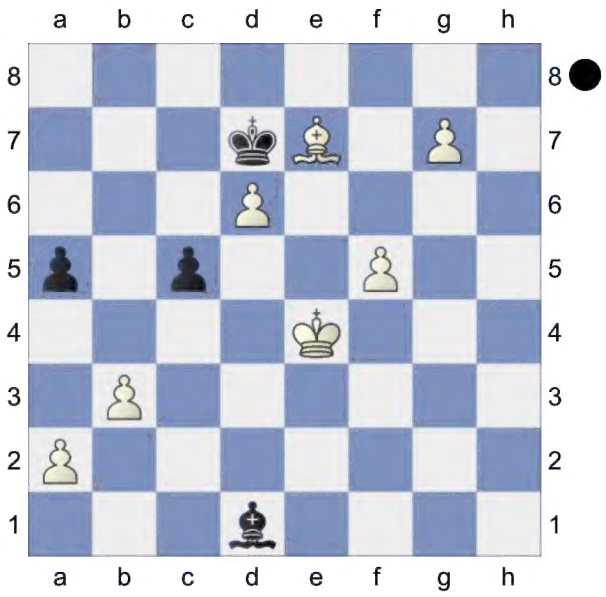


KB-KB **46.f5 Kd7 47.Kd3 a5 48.g5 Bc6 49.g6 Bf3 50.Ke3 Bh5**



51.Ke4 Bd1 52.g7

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.36

1-0